



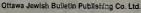


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21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9

Publisher: Mitchell Bellman

Editor: Barry Fishman





A view from Carling Avenue of the vacant piece of land recently purchased by the Federation. In the background is 11 Nadolny (OJB Photo: Ariel Vered)

ampus expands

By Barry Fishman

The Ottawa Jewish community campus is about to get bigger.

The Jewish Federation of Ottawa has announced the purchase of a vacant piece of land directly in front of 11 Nadonlny Sachs Private. The property borders Kerr Avenue and runs north to Carling Avenue. A small part borders Boyd Avenue.

"We were approached by a number of donors who felt it was in the community's long-term interest to own this piece of land and wanted to see if they could be of assistance in helping us to purchase it," says Federation President and CEO Mitchell Bellman

tion to develop it at a later date for community use.

"No doubt there will be a vibrant community debate on how best to use the land. We are acquiring the land under the assumption we will need more land in order to continue to expand the size of the campus and better serve the Jewish community of Ottawa," Bellman says.

Bellman stresses no existing community resources were used in purchasing the land.

The money comes from a group of generous donors who believe planning for the future is

"They recognize the community could not afford to take advan-In the short term, the land will tage of this opportunity without

AVIV Festival put on hold

from the event has not grown at

the same pace as less risky events. such as the Federation's annual

Jack Silverstein, director of the

Federation's Annual Campaign

and Ottawa Jewish Community

Foundation, is confident the

annual golf tournament will more

golf tournament.

Federation to focus on Mitzvah Day

By Barry Fishman

The AVIV Festival and Walkathon is no more. The annual spring festival scheduled for May has been put on hiatus for this year.

The Walkathon began in the early 1970s and the Aviv Festival was added four years ago.

Cancelling this year's event was a difficult decision to make says Mitchell Bellman, president and CEO, Jewish Federation of Ottawà (JFO).

"The AVIV Festivals and Walkathons have been wonderful events and the volunteer teams that have put it together have done incredible jobs. They brought creativity and constantly brought innovations to make it a more exciting and dynamic community event. From the point of view of enhancing the event, it has been very successful.

"Unfortunately, with the comnetition from other events in Ottawa, and for whatever other reasons, it's appealing to fewer and fewer people. And so, in that environment, we have to take a step back and look at what we are doing, and decide whether the Festival is worthwhile in helping us meet our goal of engaging a broad section of the community,' Bellman says.

He is hopeful the Federation will be able to find a way to attract more visitors to the Festival.

Running a festival is an expensive, risky endeavour that needs hundreds of volunteers and

months of staff preparation. The than replace the money usually declining participation of the made at the Festival. community means that revenue

"The golf tournament has grown by leaps and bounds," he

Both Bellman and Silverstein are excited about the Federation's latest community building project, Mitzvah Day. They are hoping to build on last year's Young Adult Leadership (YAD) event, which

(Continued on page 2)



George and Vera Gara in the library at Whitwell Middle School in Whitwell Tennessee. Vera, a Holocaust survivor, decided to visit the school after viewing Paper Clips, the documentary on how the students built the Holocaust Children's Musuem. See editor's column on page 7.



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Kerzner retires as head of Soloway JCC

After eight years, Linda Kerzner is stepping down as president and chief operating officer of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

Kerzner's professional career has spanned 27 years, including human resource positions at Atomic Energy Canada and Carleton Board of Education, starting up the Ottawa office of Robert Half Finance and Accounting and owning her own computer training company.

But her true passion is for being Jewish and for the Jewish community.

From a young age, Kerzner has been involved with the Ottawa Jewish community. She fondly remembers hanging out at the JCC on Chapel Street where her uncle, Hy Hochberg, was the executive director of both the JCC and the Vaad.

Her association with the current JCC began when she joined the JCC Board of Directors during Ron Prehogan's tenure as president.

She participated in the board's search for an execu-

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JCC, which ended with the selection of Kerzner herself for the position.

For Kerzner, one of the most satisfying moments was the grand opening of the Soloway JCC in September 1998, and "being able to see everything truly come to life."

Eight years later, she reflects, "What kept me going all these years was the unique opportunity where my work also satisfies my personal goals of giving back to the community."

Kerzner is proud of the vitality of the Jewish community campus. If you look at the membership, she says, "We have every segment of the Jewish community, from babies to bubbes, from orthodox to reform to unaffiliated."

The SJCC's success lies in its diverse partnerships that achieve a valuable cohesiveness within the community. She would like to see even more Jewish organizations in the vicinity.

Kerzner would not be rctiring if she did not feel

Harry

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Linda Kerzner (Photo: Gustavo Rymberg)

that she had fulfilled a lot of there are many things she what she envisioned for the did not have a chance to

SJCC. However, she says, achieve, including expand-

ing arts and culture, having an outdoor skating rink in the winter and water park in the summer, and real sports fields.

She has never stopped planning for the Jewish community campus, because she believes so resolutely in the SJCC's growth potential.

"We've come a long way from 0 members," she says. "Now we have 5,000 people coming through our doors every week."

Kerzner will not be involved in the search for her replacement. Although headhunting is her specialty, she's going to leave the search in the capable hands of the new executive committee, in which she has the utmost confidence.

The future is bright for the organization," she says.

Her advice to her successor is this: "Love what you do, because you spend too many hours not to, and sacrifice too many things. Respect the staff and the volunteers. Understand and appreciate the uniqueness of the Ottawa Jewish community.

Kerzner will miss the opportunity of being a day-to-day part of making a difference as a staff mem-

She intends to be a regular program participant and volunteer with the SJCC.

Her plans for the fall include the master's swim program, the Florence Melton Mini School, language classes, and forming a travel club through the SJCC. After all the work she has contributed in building up the SJCC, Kerzner wants to reap the benefits of the over 200 programs that are offered.

And one thing is for sure: "I will never stop being passionate about the Jewish community," she says.

ederation focuses on Mitzvah Day

(Continued from page 1)

involved members of the community doing mitzvoth such as a car wash for CHEO, working at food banks, making sandwiches for the homeless and helping out at Hillel Lodge.

We decided to have the Mitzvah Day in early December of '06 because we didn't want to compete with all the things that are happening in the spring," says Silverstein.

The Federation is hoping to partner with synagogues, agencies and schools to help with the Mitzvah Day.

"Our goal," says Sharon Frankel, JFO/OJCF development associate, "is to get our agencies much more involved so they have a much bigger presence. It is going to be much more of a joint program this year."

Frankel says Mitzvah Day is an important way of making people aware of organizations that desperately need their volunteer help

Although he expects a lot of people will be disappointed about the canceiling of this year's AVIV Festival and Walkathon, Bellman thinks, "Upon reflection, most people

will understand why the Federation has chosen this. and I am hopeful those people will get behind participating in Mitzvah Day and channelling their energy to support the community in other creative ways."

The potential for Mitzvah Day is immense, he believes.

"We are constantly looking for ways to engage the community and families and young people and people of all ages in Tzedekah and Tikun Olam ...

"We are hoping a social action day like Mitzvah Day will have a broader appeal to help us build community and help worthwhile causes."

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Dr. Kathi Kovacs:

Living, giving and participating generously

"Knowledge was everything and a good day was when you learned something for yourself and did something for another," savs Kathi Kovacs.

Kovacs is referring to something her parents imparted to her and her brother, and what, in many ways, has helped guide her life.

Co-chair of the Physicians and Surgeons division of the Annual Campaign, Kovacs has made a conscious choice to live her life by giving time and energy to people and her community. To say her upbringing greatly influenced her would be an understate-

She was born in Hungary and, as an infant, was carried in a basket when her parents fled Europe during the Hungarian revolution. Her parents had survived Auschwitz and Mauthausen, losing everyone and everything with the exception of one of her

"While they grieved the horror of their lives, they also generated invaluable optimism," says Kovacs.

Her father managed to get a job as a ship's doctor and they set sail for Canada. They landed in New

monastery, a Catholic hospital, a tuberculosis hospital and 11 families. They were the only Jews.

Within two years of being in Canada, her mother applied to medical school and moved to Halifax. Her dad got a better job in northern New Brunswick. Kathi stayed with new friends.

Her family was reunited in 1962, at which time her dad changed his specialty to the newly developing field of psychiatry. Shortly thereafter, her brother, with whom she remains very close,

Kovacs admits to being brought up with a very limited Jewish connection. Her Jewish education came mainly through the stories her parents told. Her parents became well known physicians and human rights advocates and were always ready to support others, particularly deprived, mistreated or neglected children. She was taught it was wrong to not actively advocate for others.

Kovacs was just shy of 16 when her mother became seriously ill and told her she was dying.

"I looked at her, wondering how she could live through another tragedy. She looked at me as though she knew we would be fine and we were."

Kovacs attended Dalhousie medical school and became a psychiatrist. Her brother also became a doctor. While in medical school, she met her husband, Irwin Schweitzer.

They moved to Ottawa 20 years ago and she remembers being warmly welcomed by Rabbi Reuven Bulka. They were married at Machzikei Hadas Synagogue. They couldn't afford a wedding, so Kovacs went to Jack Smith who gave them money towards their

"And that was our introduction to the Ottawa Jewish community," says Kovacs.

> They were blessed with a daughter, Leah, who is now 17, and were determined to provide her with opportunities, knowledge and guidance that would instill the beauty of Judaism.

> What she soon discovered, though, was that Leah's knowledge exceeded her own. It became both a struggle and a pleasure trying to keep up with Leah's knowledge and love of Judaism and Israel.

> "So I started to inquire more and more to keep up with her and be consistent with her."

Kovacs contends the Ottawa Jewish community Brunswick and settled in the town of Riverglades, home to a helped provide the richness of opportunity for learning and living as Jews that helped them achieve their goals.

> "Our passion not just for Judaism but community grew from very positive experiences in this community," says Kovacs. "We've had wonderful roll models from many teachers and rabbis in the community and have been very excited about the growth of Jewish education in this community."

> Kovacs has been involved actively in the community with organizations that include the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, NCSY, JET and the Federation's Annual Campaign.

> "I have been honoured to participate in the Annual Campaign and other Jewish organizations," says Kovacs. "It was really the community members of Ottawa who led me to understand the importance of the Annual Campaign. The more I was involved, the more I recognized the need to contribute time and whatever else I could.

> "Doing for other people is what gives me a sense of purpose the more you give in every different way, I believe the better you feel and the better life you have. I would add something to this year's campaign slogan which is Live generously. It does o world of good. I would say, Live generously, give generously ond portic-



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Dr. Kathi Kovacs

Live Generous IT DOES A WORLD OF GO

JET reaches out to families and singles

Ry Rob Dale

Zischa Shaps knows he has successfully reached someone "when they do anything Jewish more than before, in any meaningful way."

According to Rabbi Shaps, founder and head of Jewish Education through Torah (JET), this can mean any number of things, such as deciding to keep a kosher home; studying Torah for an hour a week; serving on a Jewish Federation committee; or just hanging out with more Jewish friends.

Those who have become involved with JET since its founding over 13 years ago have done all of these things, and more, says Shaps.

"We accept people, wher-

Allan Taylor

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ever they are in their Jewish practices," be notes, quickly adding that he's not necessarily out to bring them around to his personal Orthodox outlook.

"It's a matter of finding out where each person's interest lies, and working from there."

JET, an organization with a mandate to provide Jewish education and inspiration to adults and families, offers a wide range of classes, holiday and special event programming, lectures and other activities.

Many take place at the SJCC, while others occur virtually anywhere throughout the community – even in private homes, including, as Federation Chair Ron Prehogan noted at a recent meeting, in his own home.

JET has a large and evergrowing group of supporters and fans, many of whom originally met when they attended a JET function to learn more about some aspect of their Judaic heritage and got drawn in. Rabbi Shaps and the JET staff – Rabbis Micah Sbotkin and Dovid Burger, Program Co-ordinator Rochel Goldbaum, wife Lauren Shaps (a licensed social worker) and Office Administrator Miriam Yarmush – have had an uncanny ability to find and work with people who have had very little connection with Ottawa's Jewish com-

They reach out to people in any number of ways, for example, through advertising in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin or initiating a friendly conversation with somebody wandering through the halls of the Soloway JCC or shopping at Loblaws.

JET also gets lots of referrals from people who have attended a program and tell others, and from those who receive a Purim gift basket and call up to give thanks

Its policy is to provide an open door to all people who want to explore their Jewish roots. Programs are geared to be affordable and accessi-

Rabbi Zischa Shaps (OJB Photo: Barry Fishman)

ble. Many are offered for free, or at a minimal cost that often doesn't even cover expenses.

JET programs often don't require a prior knowledge of Hebrew or Jewish ritual, or even a long-term commitment.

ment.

An example is its Hebrew
Reading Crash Course. That
course was developed after
Rabbi Shaps realized that
many of those who wanted
to strengthen their connection to Judaism were unable
to do so because of the language barrier that existed
any time they attended a
synapogue.

Along the same lines, JET runs a Beginner's Service for Shabbat services, as well as during the High Hol-

Rabbi Shotkin is particularly proud of JET's programming for young adults and singles. There are regular Friday night dinners, twice a month, at the Shaps and the Shotkin homes; and a range of other activities carried out under the JET-SETTERS banner, including outings to nightclubs and other places.

Rabbi Shotkin points out that several people who started in a JETSETTERS program have gone on to become active in their synagogues and other community organizations.

Because much of its funding is based on private donations, JET's main challenge is its very limited resources.

"If we had more funding," says Rabbi Shaps, "we could do so much more in the community. We could hire additional administrative staff and another outreach worker, which would allow us to spend a lot more time doing JET's outreach work."

With additional resources, he adds, JET would have a greater concentration on one-to-one contacts.

"When you call somebody personally." Shaps says, "it's a lot more meaningful for them than sending them a flyer through the mail about a JET activity. You can also find out exactly what they need."

There is no doubt that JET has made an important contribution to Ottawa's Jewisb mosaic. It has reached hundreds of Jews of all ages, and made them far more aware of their Jewish heritage. And it has helped many of them (more than a few of whom would likely have had little or no connection with the community) become active and enthusiastic participants in community organizations.



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Survivor thanks Turkey

By Barry Fishman

For Montreal-based real estate developer Marcel Adams, the award-winning film, Desperate Hours, is much more than the inspiring, yet little-known story on how Turkey rescued Jews from the Holocaust.

If it wasn't for the Turkish people, Adams believes, he would not have been standing in the auditorium of the National Library and Archives of Canada speaking to a standing-room-only crowd prior to the screening of the movie.

Adams was able to escape from a forced labour camp in Romania in the spring of 1944 and, after a hazardous sea journey, reached Turkey. He and his fellow passengers were treated humanely by the Turks and, eventually, he was able to reach Palestine.

"I don't know how to thank the Turkish people and government for their help in saving our group. As often as I can, I express again and again and say thank you," he said.

Israeli Ambassador Alan Baker was moved to see so many people, many of them young, brave the cold weather to attend.

He noted that the film sends a message to people like Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadineiad and



Survivor Marcel Adams remembers how Turkey helped him reach Palestine during the Second World War.

(Photo: Svlvia Klein)

other Holocaust deniers.

"It sends a concerted message to people like that. Not only do we see evidence of what happened in the Holocaust, but also the story of Turkish citizens who helped the Jewish people during the Holocaust."

Swedish Ambassador Ingrid Maria Iremark believes, "It is by remembering and keeping knowledge alive about the Holocaust that we can avoid history repeating itself. And also by remembering individuals, like [Raoul] Wallenberg, who show us that determined individuals can

make a difference and that intolerance and hate not be allowed to overcome compassion, dignity and human rights."

Ambassador Aydemir Erman of the Republic of Turkey praised members of the diplomatic corps, including the Turkish diplomats featured in the film, who risk their lives in protecting those in need.

The film event was organized by the Canadian and Turkish Women's Association of Ottawa, the embassies of Turkey, Israel and Sweden and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

(From left to right): Israeli Ambassador Alan Baker, Swedish Ambassador Ingrid Maria Iremark and Turkish Ambassador Aydemir Erman attend the screening of Desperate Hours at the National Library and Archives of Canada.

(OJB Photo: Rena Herman)

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Finding my Jewish home at the JCC

The times they are a-changing at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre at the lay and professional leadership level, so it only seems fitting as someone who has the JCC running through his veins to share some personal thoughts about the Centre and what it can and should mean to the community.

First, a sincere thank you to Bruria Cooperman, the outgoing chair, and Linda Kerzner, the outgoing president and CEO, for all the hard work and tremendous effort they have put into the organization.

The SICC is arguably the most complex agency to run in the Jewish community and it is a thankless task trying to keep people happy. As Jews, each one of us always seems to know what's best and we are rarely shy to express our views. To try to manage that is next to impossible so Yasher Koach to Bruria for her past two years and a very special Yasher Koach to Linda for her eight years taking us from the first day on the campus right through until now.

1 first joined the JCC Board in the late 1980s or early 1990s when it was on



Federation Report

Ron Prehogan Chair

Chapel Street and I eventually became president in Ottawa, president of JCCs of Canada and finally a member of the Board of JCCs of North America where I most recently chaired their Israeli Task Force which released a comprehensive report in May 2004 – a period of 15 years of deep JCC involvement. You might ask why.

The short answer is that the JCC is what helped me find my Jewish home. I grew up in Montreal in a secular home and moved to Ottawa with Avalee in 1977 as part of the post-Parti Quebecois Anglo exodus.

A few years later, our Harris was born and we enrolled him in a pre-school program at the JCC where one of the other children in his class was the son of the then Executive Director Larry Szpirglas. Larry, being the people-person that he was, got me involved on a JCC committee and the rest was history — the Jewish Men's Softball League for me, JCC compes for Avalee, Hillel Academy, JCC campand Camp B'nai Brith for the children, etc, etc. Before we knew it, we felt more like Ottawa Jews than ex-Montreal Anglos. Our identity as a young couple was formed.

One of the biggest concerns of our community today is how do we reach out to the unaffiliated. That was me at one time — the unaffiliated. From that perspective, I believe that there is no "one-size-fits-all" solution. As much as I believe in the fundamental importance of a Jewish education, I also understand that for many people in our community Jewish education will not be the entry point into things Jewish. For me, a pre-school program at the JCC combined with the smarts, warmth and caring touch of a JCC executive director is what did it.

The JCC resonated with me at a personal level by satisfying an internal need for something Jewish. It was a place where I could hang out with other Jewish people without feeling somehow inade-quate or less than a full Jew. It was also a place where I could learn a few things Jewish which in turn helped me feel more like a Jew — without feeling embarrassed or somehow deficient about what I didn't know or didn't do or didn't feel.

The challenge for the new SJCC leadership — both at a lay and professional level — will be to make the centre more of a place for more people by trying to appeal to the "lewish spark" that resides in us all. This will require a lot of listening, extreme creativity and imagination and an ability to respond in a meaningful and non-threatening way. In my opinion, this is precisely what is required to achieve the great potential that we have to keep the Jewish Community Centre as the true centre of the Jewish community.

I wish Arnie Vered and his new board who will be installed on February 16 the very best in their endeavours. They have a big challenge and a vitally important one for the continued long-term health of our community.

A lesson in leadership we can all emulate

I write these words on the weekend before the elections, where by Divine providence we read Parshat Shemot, the first section in the Book of Exodus. We read about the birth of the greatest leader in all of Jewish history, his early years and how he was chosen to be the leader of the Jewish people. Although the elections are behind us now, there are some clements of leadership which we too can apply in our own lives.

What qualities did Moses possess that made God choose him to be the leader?

To find some clues as to the qualities of leadership God looks for, we must look at the different events that the Torah mentions before he is chosen.

Firstly, he is a caring person who feels sympathy for his people: "He goes out to his brethren and sees their burden and empathizes with them in their distress."

He does not merely notice the issues, but he actively works on improving the situation From the pulpit

Menachem Blum

OTC Chabad

and tries to relieve the suffering.

A little bit further, we are told how Moses saves Yitro's daughters though they were not his people and gives water to their sheep. From this event we see that he hates injustice and acts on it. His kindness goes beyond what would be expected of the average good person.

The Torah continues to tell us that he was a shepherd and he tended his flock with such compassion.

The ultimate leader, as understood from the Torah, is not one who enjoys a sense of power or desires self-advancement. The ultimate leader is one whose primary concern is for his people.

In fact, when God appears to him in the burning bush, he is reluctant to become the leader. Unlike those who nominate themselves and extol their virtues to all, Moses, out of humility, questions whether or not he is suitable for the position. He is concerned about how his older brother Aaron will feel. He is concerned about the Israelites and their suffering and his ability because of his speech impediment.

In many cases, looking at a potential leader's lineage would help us to understand why he was chosen. Yet, when we examine the narrative of Moses' early years, we are told very little about his parents.

"A man went from the house of Levi and took a daughter of Levi" the verse tells us. The Torah wants to point out that the true greatness of Moses was his deep concern for his people, his humility and not his prestigious background.

The Torah is not merely a history book. It is a guidebook for our daily life. The very word, Torah, shares a root with the word "Horaah," instruction. Therefore the Torah not only mentions details that are instructive to us in choosing a leader, but also in our own little leadership roles.

As the election fever subsides, we look at the life of our first leader Moses and look at the elements of leadership that we should strive to apply to our lives.

Letters welcome

Letters to the Editor are welcome if they are brief, signed, timely and of interest to our readership.

The OJB reserves the right to refuse, edit or condense letters.

The Mailbag column is published as space permits.

Send your comments, opinions and letters by mail to the Editor, Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario, K2A 1R9, or email to bfishman@ottawajewishbulletin.com.



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Children of Whitwell teach us an important lesson

Shoah survivor Vera Gara worried that, once she and her fellow survivors were gone, the Holocaust would be forgotten.

She no longer has that fear. Her visit to Whitwell Middle School, the home of the Children's Holocaust Memorial in Whitwell, Tennessee, helped change her mind.

"Because of you, and thank you, thank you, it will never be forgotten. You have made the effort to teach tolerance so that the Holocaust and any other kind of atrocities should never happen again," she told the students and teachers during her recent visit.

After viewing the film, Paper Clips, the story of how a rural school in the small Tennessee town of Whitwell went about collecting six million paper clips so the students would understand the enormity of the Holocaust, Gara was so inspired, she immediately e-mailed Linda Hooper, the principal, and arranged a visit.

It is an improbable story. With the help of their teachers, the people of Whitwell (population 1,600) and the goodwill of people throughout the world, the students eventually collected 11 million paper clips – the number of people killed by the Nazis because of their race, political or religious beliefs, mental capabilities or sexual orientation. Thanks to German journalists Dagmar and Peter Schroeder,



Editor

Barry Fishman

they were able to find a German railway cattle car that was used to transport Jews to concentration camps. The car, with the paper clips inside, now stands in a park next to the school as part of the Children's Holocaust Memorial.

Gara could not believe how polite and caring the children were.

"I was in a strange place," she laughs, as she describes the atmosphere in the school. "A Grade I student opened the door for me and asked if he could help. Another student insisted on carrying my iacket."

She spent a full day there speaking to the Grade 8 classes and students in the library and cafeteria. Some of the questions asked were: What did you eat? Were you always hungry? How were you treated? How many were in the barracks at Belgen Belsen? What did you do there?

They were, for the most part, the usual student questions Gara has heard many times when visiting Ottawa area schools. And then a young boy got up and simply asked, "Were you ever able to laugh?"

It was a powerful, emotional statement that, Gara says, "Never, not in universities, not in high schools or even elementary schools, did I ever hear that question."

She went on to describe how the adults in the camps would try to entertain the children and make them feel better.

Gara is impressed with the reaction of the town to the project. It seems everyone is involved.

The townsfolk helped build the stairs and wheel chair and stroller ramp to the railway car and either donated or dug up plants from their garden to plant at the memorial. As well, a group of volunteers looks after the park the museum is set in.

The school library is something to behold. Volunteers, students and teachers have catalogued hundreds of letters and information about the Holocaust.

The children at Whitwell Middle School have collected millions more paper clips than they need. Now they want to give them away to other schools interested in undertaking Holocaust projects. They are hoping schools from around the world will submit project proposals.

"If anyone comes up with an idea to teach about the Holocaust or atrocities, they will be sent paper clips, as many as the school can send, or the number the school or group needs," says Gara.

For Gara, it was worth the long journey to visit Whitwell. She says, "I was deeply moved by what I saw."

How true.

Whitwell Middle School is a testament to the potential goodness of mankind. If a small, poor, rural, almost exclusively white, Protestant town of 1,600 is willing to build a Holocaust Children's Museum and teach their children the importance of diversity, tolerance and respect for all groups, then there is still hope for all of us.

It is something we should all remember the next time, and there certainly will be a next time, we read about the ravings of the Holocaust deniers or the atrocities committed against humanity.

If you know of someone who has made a difference in our community, the Federation wants to hear from you. During the annual general meeting in June, the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award, the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award and the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award will be presented.

You can nominate deserving individuals by filling out the form on page 24 of the *Bulletin*, or, for more information, visit www.jewishottawa.com.

Canadians take the Conservatives on a test drive

Am I the only one, or did anyone else find the results of our latest Canadian election a little ... well ... Canadian?

We like to think of ourselves as a nation forged in compromise, and the voters of 2006 imposed exactly that on our major political parties.

Each got something, but none got exactly what it wanted.

Conservatives wanted a majority government after years as a fractured opposition. Barring that, a solid minority would have suited them. Voters gave them a slim, fragile minority government — a chance to take the country out on a date, as long as they have it back before curfew. If the new government proves itself trustworthy, maybe it won't need a chaperone next time around.

The Liberals spent their last mandate narrowly clinging to power, but the chance to continue that narrow cling would have been cause for celebration in Grit-land.

Instead, voters grounded them for a while. But it's like being grounded in your room with full use of TV and video games: With 103 MPs, they have a shot at renewal from a position of relative strength.

The NDP asked Liberal supporters to "lend us your vote" and give the party the balance of power in Parliament. The party



Alan Echenberg

narrowly missed out on holding that balance, but increased its seat count in the House of Commons to 29 from 18.

The Bloc went into the election confident that it would increase its seat count. More importantly to Bloc members, it hoped to break through the barrier of 50 per cent of the popular vote in Quebec, a barrier never before breached by a sovereignist party.

The only breakthrough in Quebec was that of the Tories, which cost the Bloc both seats and popular support. But in the end, the Bloc does hold the balance of power. The results were a mixed blessing for both sovereignists and federalists.

So ... if Canadians want compromise, will this coming Parliament be able to deliver it? For a while, at least, it should. No one has any short-term interest in provoking yet another election.

The Conservatives want a chance to prove themselves, gain governing experi-

ence, and inspire confidence in voters for the next round. The Liberals are broke and leaderless and need time to rejuvenate. The other parties are too small to bring down the government on their own, and it's hard to imagine they will want to do that again so soon.

So the new prime minister and his rookie government have won the keys to the car, but the gasoline supply is limited. Canadians will take them out for a test drive for the next little while to decide whether they want to refill the tank.

One final election post-mortem is in order for this particular space.

Early in the campaign, I took a look at the Jewish vote, which has traditionally favoured the Liberal Party of Canada.

In fact, the 10 ridings in Ontario with the highest per capita Jewish population had gone exclusively Liberal for the past four federal elections. Some were among the safest Liberal seats in the country.

With the Liberals losing power, was there any change this time around? A little, but not much.

In fact, the Liberal Party owes the biggest chunk of the ridings it was able to retain to the voters of Toronto and the surrounding 905-region (named for its area code), who bucked the trend in the rest of Ontario and largely stuck with the Grits.

Nine of the Top 10 Jewish ridings in Ontario are in Toronto or the 905, and all but one remained solidly Liberal. Typical is Thornhill, the riding with the largest Jewish population in the province, where the Liberal incumbent easily retained her seat with 53.1 per cent of the vote.

The one exception in Toronto was the downtown riding of Trinity-Spadina, which sent Olivia Chow, the wife of NDP Leader Jack Layton, to Parliament.

The only other exception among the Top 10 was here in the nation's capital. Ottawa West – Nepcan-(home to the fabled shrett of Centrepointe) elected Conservative John Baird to the House of Commons. The former Ontario cabinet minister is one of the few new Conservative MPs with governing experience, so he will probably play a prominent role in the new government.

How much of his victory did he owe to the Jewish voters of the riding?

Hard to say, but if he shows up at your local Tu B'Shevat celebrations in a few weeks, you'll have a good idea.

Alan Echenberg is the Parliament Hill bureau chief for Studio 2. TVOntario's nightly current affairs program.

a Jewish obsession Intermarriage:

Ever do a Google search on the word intermarriage? Nine of the top 10 results are Jewish sites, It's amazing that although Jews constitute one quarter of one per cent of humanity, it seems intermarriage is exclusively a Jewish

Whether it's a new book about intermarriage, an upcoming conference or a resource centre, vou can bet that it has to do with Jews marrying gentiles. Most cultures exert pressure to marry one's own kind, but for Jews it seems to be an obsession.

This should not be surprising considering that we Jews have lived as a minority in foreign, and often hostile, environments for most of our history. If it wasn't for our steadfast desire to continue our progeny as Jews, we would have disappeared as a people long ago.

On the other hand, if you look at today's intermarriage figures, you'd think we were anything but obsessed with Jewish continuity; in fact, you'd think we had abandoned ship.

One in every two North American Jews marries out.

a Jewish obsession, most Jews don't seem to be obsessed about it. I was no different and dated a Chinese

Let's be honest. Judaism is much more than a religion.

Judaism is culture and ethnicity. It is language and geography. It is a collective mindset forged by a particular set of historical experiences. One can quite easily live one's entire life as a Jew guided by these influences. But, if one were to strip away these layers, one would dis-Judaism: our Torah.

While Jewish culture, Jewish languages, Jewish geography, Jewish mindset have evolved and changed, the Torah has remained unchanged. If there is one factor that is of ultimate value, infinitely profound, and uniquely Jewish, it is the Torah. It is the one ingredient

Opinion

So, while intermarriage is without which Judaism could easily, in a matter of a few generations, become unrecognizably transformed or diluted, and eventually vanish in the sea of competing social norms.

While community leaders of all denominations are battling the intermarriage crisis. statistics show that marrying out is lowest among Orthodox Jews who truly believe the Torah to be the immutable word of God and their decisive guide in life.

Believing that the Torah is of divine origin has most sigcover the core essence of nificant implications for how our daily existence is to be consummated and for our purpose in life. In the absence of this belief, there is no sustainable argument why one (or one's children) should not intermarry.

As was my case, many secular Jews who struggle with intermarriage are walking on thin ice. Their motives

for marrying Jewish are tenuous, such as family expectations, which often are overridden once "love" is found. Or, it could be a clannish mindset bordering on racism: We must not marry gentiles because they, their culture or religion are different or inferior." Among often-heard arguments are, "It would kill my parents," "Because of the

anti-Semitism." These reasons are tainted with guilt and prompt the question, "Why be Jewish?"

Holocaust," "Because of

What is so important about our heritage that we must sacrifice our happiness refrain from marrying the person we love - for its sake?

All ethnic groups, in trying to curb intermarriage, attempt to instill in their children a greater appreciation of the richness of their heritage. In an increasingly multi-cultural society, this is proving more and more challenging.

For us, such an approach is essential, and we must get to the core. What has preserved our people through the ages is a deep appreciation of Torah combined with an unfaltering conviction that God authored it.

Now we just need to get more Jews obsessed about Torah.

Jack Botwinik is the author of Chicken Soup with Chopsticks: A Jew's Struggle for Truth in an Interfaith Relationship.

More info: www.Paper-Spider.Net, 1-888-BOOKS-

The Bulletin is publishing a range of views on the topic of reaching out to the intermarried and unaffiliated. We welcome submissions of 500 to 600 words. Please contact the editor at bfishman@ ottawajewishbulletin.com.

Pirkei Avot: the wisdom of our sages

Pirkei Avos 4-1 - Ben Zoma says: Who is wise? He who learns from every person, as it says (Tehillim 119:99) "From all my teachers I grew wise."

By Rabhi Zischa Shaps

This definition of wisdom would seem to be somewhat unconventional. I would think that one who is wise is a person who has a great deal of knowledge and uses it appropriately.

Ben Zoma goes even further. In his view, a person who is naturally smart, and therefore attains a lot of knowledge, is not necessarily the ideal. He looks at what the individual has accomplished through his own

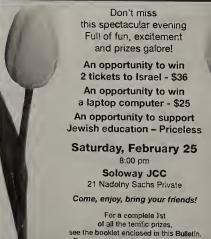
The Maharal (Rabbi Judah Loew of Prague, I525-1609) explains that Ben Zoma is saying the true indication of a wise person is one who searches for knowledge.

A wise person ean learn from everyone and anyone because the desire to attain wisdom is a part of his being.

A Torah scholar is known as a Talmid Chacham, literally, a student of wisdom. A true Torah scholar views himself as an eternal student who is always seeking to learn from others. If one takes this attitude, he will not be too proud to learn from someone who is seemingly on a lower level.

King David exclaims in the Psalm that he attempted to learn from everyone, even someone who was his enemy. If King David was not too proud to learn from all people, we too are capable of gaining knowledge and insight from anyone we interact with.





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(left to right) Sheryl Kardish, office manager, Brlan Aarenau, , Marcia Cantor, executive director, Rabbi Reuven Bulka, Steve Fremeth, Shelley Rothman, Vera Klein, chair, Muriel Korngold-Wexler, Elaine Sigler, Pauline Pankowski, Naomi Lipsky-Cracower, Cheryl Dubrofsky, Maxine Rabinovitz (missing Anna-Lee Chiprout, Richard Moses, Lewis Retik, Cathy Levine and Norman Barwin).



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More than trees 798-2411

Todah Rabah, Ottawa!

Thank You Ottawa! The 2006 Tu B'Shevat Telethon has established a brand new Ottawa record in the average amount of trees planted per call.

For the first time ever, the Annual Tu B'Shevat Telethon took place at the Ottawa offices of Amon Corporation / Ro Engineering, Things hummed along like clockwork under our very able Chair Lori Locb. Mark Mendelson, executive director for Eastern Canada, came in especially from Montreal to lend a hand and oversee the concerted eight-hour long effort and, along with Gina Grant, Jasmine Bradbury Klyman, Shira Benlolo and Yours Truly, kept the logistics of the busy day logical.

Starting at 10 am, an army of gracious volunteers sat down to two-hour stints on the telephones in an attempt to reach each and every member of the Ottawa Jewish community by 6 pm. They did an amazing job, fortified by the delicious 'vittles' generously donated by David Smith's Creative Kosher Catering, the Rideau Bakery and 9-5 Coffee.

Special thanks for their help goes to Lori Shusterman and to the entire Vered family.

The 'Sweeps'

Sweeps are planned for the first week or two in February to reach those whom we missed on that spectacular Sunday, January 23. If the results continue at the same pace – and we fully expect they will – then we anticipate another record-breaking year for Ottawa!

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Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah Inscriptions

On the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah, Elishua Ben-Choreen has been inscribed in the Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah by her proud parents Aviva Ben-Choreen and Jonathan Freedman.

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (798-2411).



Impressive performance by violinist Arkady Yanivker

By Diya Nickelberg, Ottawa music lovers re-

Ottawa music lovers recently enjoyed an evening of violin music performed by Arkady Yanivker with the accompaniment of pianist Olga Chernjak at Agudath Israel Congregation.

Yanivker, a virtuoso violinist and the concert master of the Toronto Philharmonic Orchestra, is well known in Canada and internationally.

A graduate of the renowned Stolarsky music academy in Odessa, Russia, and a former concert master of the Novosibirsk theatre of Opera and Ballet, Yanivker performs and teaches in Canada. His former students have won many top prizes at violin competitions in Canada and around the world.

Yanivker demonstrated his masterful control of the instrument by performing a wide selection of both classical and modern violin music.

The concert program included complex pieces by

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During the evening, Yanivker briefly told the audience about the composers and the history of the pieces he played.

I found the musician's comments informative and refreshing. It had the insight that allowed listeners to better understand the music played.

The accompaniment by Chernjak should be noted for its faultless performance and sensitive interaction with the soloist.

The audience reacted favourably to the familiar music. As well, they listened with interest and attention to some of the complicated and rarely heard pieces performed by Yaniyker.

Despite some unfortunate incidents (for example, insufficient lighting of the stage), the concert was a pleasure for the public and a success for the organizers of this significant cultural event.

The concert was organized and produced by Adele Grosman.



Violinist Arkady Yanivker during his performance at Agudath Israel. (Photo: alex Doulov)

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New Partner Announcement



Morton has been named a partner, effective January 1, 2006. Paul joined GGFL

after graduating with a Billath degree from the University of

Ginsberg Gluzman Fage & Levitz, LLP

(GGFL) are pleased

to announce that Paul

Waterloo. He is committed to working directly with ents to ensure all their financial requirements are addressed. His specialty areas of practice are personal and corporate income tax, estate planning, trusts, and corporate reorganizations

partners of Paul is connected to the corporate community through his membership in various business organizations, such as the Estate Planning Council and the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP). He also became a Certified Financial Planner (CFP) in

> firms in the National Capital Region, GGFL is a fullservice firm committed to enhancing decision making and improving organizational performance. Acting with integrity, objectivity, and a commitment to excellence, GOFL has the depth and occasion of a major accounting firm with its international affiliation with DFK Canada and DFK International.

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Caring for the elderly

Challenges facing children and caregivers

The entire community is welcome to attend a series of four lectures geared to answer the questions and concerns of the growing number of us caring for the elderly. Experts in the fields of medicine, geriatrics, psychology, law, assessment and placement, will share their expertise as follows:

February 21: Introduction - The Spiritual, Psychosocial And Emotional Aspects Of Taking Care Of The Elderly, with speakers Iris Beer, social worker at Jewish Family Services; and Rabbi Howard

February 28: The Legal Aspects Of Taking Care Of The Elderly, with speaker

Russell Gibson of Vincent, Dagenais, Gibson. Mr. Gibson is an estate lawyer who will deal with the legal issues concerning the elderly and their care.

March 21: Geriatric Assessment Of The Elderly Individual, with speakers Carmen Rodrigue, psychological geriatric resource consultant; and Dr. Jonathan Isserlin, chief of geriatrics, Queensway Carleton Hospital.

March 28: Options For The Elderly, with speakers Wendy Birkhan of Homewatch CareGivers; Marie France Lalonde, Retirement Residences Group; and Stephen Schneiderman, Executive Director of Hillel Lodge.

> The lectures will be held at 7:30 pm Beth Shalom West, 15 Chartwell Avenue Cost: \$10/session, or \$30 for all 4 sessions. Please RSVP to 723-1800 or bsw@bethshalomwest.org

A joint program of Beth Shalom West, Jewish Family Services and the Soloway JCC.

Film offers unique view of Ultra-Orthodox

By Lynne Cohen

The best kinds of movies (and books and plays) are the ones that make you hoth laugh and cry, even within minutes of each other.

The film Ushpizin, about the trials and tribulations of a poor Ultra-Orthodox couple who live in the most religious section of Jerusalem, is exactly that kind of movie. and much more.

The story, which takes places during Succot, gives a comedic view of the secluded community, yet it manages to address the universal themes of religion, society, family and friendship.

Moshe and his wife. Mali. are real-life spouses Shuli Rand and Michal Bat-Sheva Rand. In fact, Shuli Rand is a former actor who quit when he hecame Ultra-Orthodox, and returned to write and appear in Ushpizin, which means the guests.

His wife, who has never acted hefore, is recruited hecause he cannot work as an actor with a woman who is not his wife. Her acting is exceptional. The movie is directed by Giddi Dar.

The couple is desperate as the holidays near. They have no money for food or for a succah and the stress is almost unhearable.

"I am a lump of sadness," Moshe says to God.

Unable to have a child. Mali suggests prayer, and soon miracles happen.

They receive an envelope munity.



Real-life spouses Shuli Rand and Michal Bat-Sheva Rand perform as husband and wife in Ushpizin.

of money under the door. Moshe learns of an un-owned shack that would make a perfect succah. He uses the money to huy a heautiful

And then there is the gift of two unexpected guests, one from Moshe's distant past, making the celehration complete. Of course, Moshe and Mali don't know that the tough, tattooed men - totally non-religious and ungrateful. hut very pleased with the free food - are actually fugitives from the law, and the hilarious story proceeds from

But expect to he deeply touched by the naïvete and love of the couple, and hy what happens to the two tough guys, who also run into problems with the com-

This adventure into the world of the Ultra-Orthodox is highly entertaining and a worthwhile learning experi-ence.

Emunah Women of Ottawa will be showing this film at the Tom Brown Arena Hall, 344 Bayview Road, corner of Scott Street, second floor on Fehruary 26, 7:00 -

A parve huffet dinner will he served at 7:00 pm, followed by the movie at 8:00 pm. The cost is \$30, patron \$50, sponsor \$100.

All proceeds go to Neve Michael Children's Village in Israel. The children's village looks after Israeli at-risk children.

For tickets or more information call Rivka Kraus (241-5613) or Dehhie Fischman (829-8465).

Women's role in Judaism

Chabad of Centrepointe will be hosting a lecture for hoth men and women, entitled "Kabhalah and the Female's Role in Judaism."

The guest speaker is Rahhi Mendel Kaplan, founder and spiritual leader of Chahad @ Flamingo, Toronto, one of the largest and most active Chahad Centres in the world.

He is a dynamic and powerful orator often called upon hy the media and is frequently featured on television and radio shows.

The lecture will focus on

explaining why, despite the fact that Jewish history ceiebrated personalities seem to he male, and Jewish practice at times seems to he patriarchal and even chauvinistic, ancient Kahhalistic writings insist that the female possesses a soul

Rahhi Kaplan will describe how the female is meant to express the energies of her soul within her role in Judaism.

of superior quality.

The lecture will also touch on the Jewish view of the feminine revolution that

has swept the Western

A question and answer period will follow the lecture and light refreshments will be served

The lecture takes place Wednesday, Fehruary 15 at 7:30 pm at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, 21 Nadolny-Sachs Private. There is a \$15 per person charge.

For more information please contact Chahad of Centrepointe (594-4900 or on line at www.chahad centrepointe.com).

Agudath Israel's Nearly New Shop to close

By Ariel Vered

The Ottawa Jewish community is losing a valued institution. The Nearly New Shop, a used goods store operated by Agudath Israel Synagogue, will be closing its doors on March 31, 2006 after 56 years of dedicated service to the community.

Located at 36 Rosemount Avenue, on the site of the first Agudath Israel Synagogue, the Nearly New Shop is a fundraising venture whose proceeds go towards various shul projects such as the building of a wheelchair ramp at Agudath Israel.

The store is stocked with used merchandise that has been generously donated by the community. Until six months ago, the store accepted everything except furni-

ture. Its current stock consists of clothing for men, women and children, footwear, jewellery, linens, hats, purses, books, videos and records.

The Nearly New Shop has always been more than simply a second-hand store, although, "most people will tell you that it is the best second-hand store in Ottawa," notes Sharon Fitch, the shop's manager.

The store has benefited over the years from the dedicated service of community volunteers, including volunteers from Tamir and high school students earning credit for required community service hours. This has further enhanced the store's community-oriented envi-



The Newly New Shop has been located in Hintonberg for over 56 years. It closes at

has provided a place within

The store has been an donate used items for a good asset to the community, as it cause. Even more so, says Fitch, "it has acted as a dropthe community for people to in centre for the Hintonberg

community. People who have been shopping at the store for years now come in with their grandchildren."

Unfortunately, that sense of community connectedness is not enough to keep the store open.

According to Fitch, the store's closing is a result of steadily decreasing revenue over the years, a changing community demographic and a rise in second-hand stores in Ottawa, leading to the decision of Agudath Israel's Board of Directors to focus on other fundraising

The Nearly New Shop has served both the Jewish community and the Hintonberg community well over its 56-year tenure

It has not closed yet, but even now, Fitch says, "people come in and bemoan the loss of a community institu-

Regional Cancer Foundation announces Rabbi Bulka Award

In celebration of the man, whose inspiring leadership and unselfish dedication to this community has so significantly improved the lives of cancer patients and their families, the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation announced the establishment of the Rabbi Bulka Award.

The Rabbi Bulka Award is presented to an outstanding individual who is dedicancer through volunteering or raising funds for cancer care and research in the Ottawa region.

This yolunteer is a model citizen possessing the attributes of both courage and understanding.

The first-ever recipient of this award is Peter Char-

Like Rabbi Bulka, Charbonneau is an extraordinary Regional Cancer Founda-

Rabbi Reuven Bulka is co-chair of the Courage Campaign. The campaign has already raised 40 per cent of its \$20 million goal towards The Ottawa Hospital Regional Cancer Centre's expansion at both the General Campus and a new facility at the Queensway Carleton Hospital.

Currently, 19,000 people a year from the Ottawa area receive treatment at the Cancer Centre and that number is expected to increase to between 30,000 and 35,000 people within the next decade.





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Everything you need to know about a Tu B'Shevat Seder

(JPS) Tu B'Shevat, the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat, is the official day for celebrating the New Year of the Trees. As a holiday, first mentioned in the Mishnah, it is a late bloomer, only coming into full flower with the Zionist return to Israel. Focusing on the land and its fruits, return to roots and Eretz Yisrael, it is customary on Tu B'Shevat to eat a variety of fresh and dried fruits and nuts.

Only in recent years, however, has the Tu B'Shevat Seder grown in popularity.

In the 16th century, Kabbalists (mystics) in Safed invigorated the holiday by composing a Tu B'Shevat Seder, based on the Pesach Seder, which included four cups of wine, four questions, unique expression of apprecispecific foods and storytelling. They believed that eating the fruit, preceded by blessings, was a tikkun, or correction in Kabbalah, that could have a positive influ-

ence on the year's produce.

Over time, different communities have added their own customs and the Tu h'Shevat Seder - which now also has its own Haggadah and often includes contemporary Hebrew poetry and song - has developed into a ation for the land.

Although there are different versions of the Tu B'Shevat Seder, most follow the same pattern. Like the Passover Seder, the Tu

B'Shevat Seder calls for four glasses of wine, the drinking of which are preceded by the blessing for wine: "Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine."

The first cup of wine is composed entirely of white wine, symbolizing the barrenness of the winter; the second is mostly white mixed with some red, symbolizing the approach of spring; the third is mostly red mixed with some white, symbolizing the

progression of spring, and the fourth is all red, symbolizing the arrival of summer.

Fruit is eaten during the Seder and includes four categories: fruit with a hard outer shell (almonds, pecans, walnuts), fruit with an inner pit (dates, olives, plums, cherries), fruit with an outer shell and inner pit (carob, avocado, pomegranate, orange) and fruit that is entirely edible (figs, grapes, raisins, strawberries).

A large centre plate is usually used to hold the 15 different kinds of fruits: sometimes individual plates are prepared for each person.

A friend of mine has always associated buksa, the fruit of the carob tree, with Tu B'Shevat, as he recalls his father "bringing it home at holiday time." This tradition can be traced back to Rabbi Shimon bar Yohai, who took refuge in a cave with his son when hiding from the Romans and lived on well water and the fruit of the

carob tree for 13 years. The late Lubavitcher Rebbe instructed his followers to eat carobs on Tu B'Shevat during the Gulf War in 1991, because Rabbi Chanina ben Dosa, who was schooled in miracles, was known to eat carobs. Although no miracles occurred, the war did take a turn for the better after the

One person usually leads the Tu B'Shevat Seder - pro-

which fruit to eat or glass of wine to drink - and makes the appropriate blessing while holding in his hand the object being blessed. As with the Pesach Seder, however, it is also quite acceptable for everyone to have a turn reading the Haggadah.

Noga Hareuven of Neot Kedumim, the Biblical Landscape Reserve in Israel, composed the following version of the four questions as part of their Tu B'Shevat Seder

Why is the Seder of the night of Tu B'Shevat different from the Seder of the night of Passover?

Because, at the Passover Seder, we eat matzah and, on this night, only fruit.

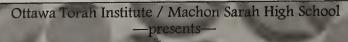
At the Passover Seder, we drink wine of any colour; on this night, we drink white and red wine.

At the Passover Seder, we tell of the Exodus from Egypt; on this night, we speak of the fruits of the field.

Another Seder begins by asking four ecologically relevant questions designed to help us understand the significance of this day:

Why does this holiday honour trees? Why, today, do we eat fruit that is grown in Israel? Why, today, do we focus on conservation? Why do we think about planting even though spring is still some way off?

(Continued on page 14)



THE ADINA BEN-PORAT MEMORIAL LECTURE

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A Medical and Jewish Ethical Perspective on Experimental Therapies



Rabbi Eliezer Ben-Porat

Dean, Ottawa Torah Institute & Machon Sarah High School Author, Halakhic Work "Noam Eliezer"



Dr. Raphael Saginur

Chairman, Research Ethics Board, The Ottawa Hospital Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa Head, Infectious Diseases, Ottawa Hospital Civic Campus

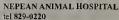
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A Hillel Lodge Honour Fund is a permanent pool of capital that earns interest or income each year. This income then supports the priorities designated by you, the donor

Leona Adler Endowment Fund In Memory of: Sam Schaenfield by Marilyn Adler.

The Sonia Rawicki Agulnik Music Therapy Fund

In Memory of:

Norman Lithwick by Paula and Manny Agulnik.

Lillian Kimmel by Paula and Manny

The Elsie Baker Endowment Fund

In Memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Polly and Jack Moran.

Malcolm and Vera Glube Endowment Fund

In Memory of:

Norman Lithwick by Vera ond Malcolm

Lillian Kimmel by Vera and Malcolm Glube. In Honour of:

Carolyn and Adam Telner Congratulations on Susie's engagement to Herbert Brill by Vera and Malcolm Glube.

The Nell Gluck Memoriel Fund

In Honour of:

Mr. and Mrs. Toby Appel Mazal Tov on your 33rd anniversary by Maureen, Henry, Alex, Adena and Edie Molot.

Alyssa Zeller and Adam Sheer Mazal Tov on the birth of your daughter by Maureen and Henry Molet

The Frank and Lily Hoffenberg Family Fund

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In Honour ef: Elaine Wolfish Happy Special Birthday by Rose Ann and Ron Hoffenberg.

The David, Harvey, and Victor Kardish Family Fund In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Sheryl, Harvey, Mallory and Ryan Kardish

Nathan Waserman by Sheryl, Harvey, Mallory and Ryan Kardish.

Lillian and Morris Kimmel Family Fund In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Junc Davis; Carol and Laurie Pascoe; Yvonne and Ychuda Azuelos; Beverly, David, Jory and Mark Gluzman; Ethel Bloom; Susan Greenberg; Wendy, Jack, Sarah, Danielle and Corey Klein; Donna and Bernie Dolansky; Sylvia, Morton and Harris Pleet; Judy, Jonathan, Mara and Rebecca Bosloy; Zelaine and Sol Shinder; Barbara and Len Farber; Marcia and Dick Zuker; Murray Citron; Joanna and Ira Abrams; Morag Burch; Libby and Stan Katz; Bonnie, Bruce, Matthew, Hana and Sabrina Engel; Jim Montgomery; Susan Elias; Karen and Ron Fainstein and Family; Debi and David Shore; Ellis and Cecile Solomon; Jacquie, Isra, Joe, Rebecca and Josb Levy; Judy and Michael Aranoff; Gilles Brisebois; Rachel Zbar and David Rosenberg; Denise Sberman and Yakov Feig; Kathleen and Bill Kennedy; Rhona and Leonard Cogan; Mike, Francisco and Charlene Pistchik: Anna and Sam Wex: Rickie and Marty Saslove; Goldie Cantor; Carolyn and Sid Katz; Meg and Mark Friedman; Joe Princiotta and the Princiotta Group of Companies; Deborah and Ray Saginur; Barbara and Howard Geller; Marsha and Art Saper; Freda Lithwick; Betty and Sid Finkelman: Simmy Gardner: Judi and Ed Kerzner; Marjorie, Lou and Howard Goldmaker; Faigy and Zachary Muroff and Family; Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan; Esther Binder; Barbara and Pinchas Pleet; Roz and Steve Fremeth; the Sandell and Garmaise Families; Wendy and Yigal Hadad; Mindy M. Bullion and Joseph Benmergui; Shelley Harris and Joel Ublansky, Adam and Jonathan; Esty and Fern Bybelezer: Bonnie and Chuck Merovitz: Ruth

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The Bill and Phyllis Leith Family **Endowment Fund**

In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Phyllis Leith. In Honour of:

Minnie Greenberg Best wishes on your very special birthday. May there be many more good days ahead by Gloria and Barry Trainoff.

The Max Lieff Endowment Fund In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Dorothy Lieff. Annie Philippson by Dorothy Lieff.

Ida and Sidney Lithwick Fund In Memory of:

Norman Lithwick by the Sandell and Garmaise Families; Maynard Kriger; Ingrid and Gerry Levitz: Freda Lithwick: Susan Elias: Marilyn Adler and Neil Blacher; Estelle and Sol Gunner; William Bloom; Lima and Marsha Magidson; Shirley and Akiva Kriger; Annette and Jack Edelson; and Bert and Abe Klugsberg.

Sara Lithwick Green end Murray Sidney Green Family Fund In Memory of:

Norman Lithwick by Susan Elias

Sam and Dora Litwack Family **Endowment Fund** In Memory of:

Lillion Kimmel by Ethel and Abe Murray.

Dennis Newton Memorial Fund In Honour of:

Jennifer Hadad Mazal Tov on receiving the Grossman-Klein Teen Leadership Award. We are so proud of you (as always)! by Wendy, Jack, Sarah, Danielle and Corey Klein.

Shelley and Sidney Rothman Family Fund

In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Shelley and Sid Rothman and Family.

Schachter/Ingber Family Fund In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Rachel, Howard, Davida and Josh Schachter.

Stephen and Debra Schneiderman Family Fund

In Memory of:

Leslie Blumenthal by Ingrid and Gerry Levitz; and Debra and Stephen Schneiderman.

Label and Leona Silver Family Fund In Memory of:

Annie Philippson by Millie Schaenfield. Sam Schaenfield by Stephen Silver; and Millie Schaenfield

Sarah and Arnie Swedler Family Fund In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Sarah and Arnie Swedler.

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In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Roz and Myles Taller

Ethel and Irving Taylor Fund

In Memory of:

Mona Slover by Ethel and Irving Taylor. Lillian Kimmel by Ethel and Irving Taylor.

The Edith Teitelbaum and Eddie Zinmen Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

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Lillian Kimmel by Fuzzy and Max Teitelbaum.

The Milton end Mary (Terry) Viner Family Fund

In Memory of:

Annie Philippson by Shirley and Gordon

The Eric Weiner end Arlene Godfrey Family Fund

In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Arlene Godfrey and Eric Weiner and Family.

(Continued on page 14)

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Workshops and lectures aimed at student journalists

A group of 35 Jewish student journalists from across North America recently met in Toronto for a set of workshops and lectures on how they could raise the profile of cballenges and issues facing the Jewish world.

Held at the United Jewish Communities General Assembly in late fall, the Do the Write Thing workshop allowed the students to meet prominent journalists and Jewish figures from Israel and the Diaspora. They were shown how they could be the leaders of the next generation.

Jewish Agency's foreign press and media liaison, spoke to the students about the significance of journalists in the world, and the influence they have to make a difference.

"Don't forget that the pen is mightier than the sword," he said.

At the workshop, students also heard from Gary Rosenblatt, the publisher of the New York based. The Jewish Week, the largest-circulation Jewish publication in North America, who reminded them that young Jews are more isolated from communities and

Michael Jankelowitz, the Israel than ever before.

"People-under 45 are less connected to Israel in a visceral way ... they are isolated because they feel confused about Israel, and there's a sense of breaking away." Rosenblatt said.

He added that, as journalists, the assembled students had the power and capability to educate and inform those isolated from Judaism to try to re-integrate them back into a Jewish identity.

"We are trying to be supporters of the community," Rosenblatt said.

Another speaker, Martin ben-Moreh, told the students that, unless issues facing Israel and the Diaspora are talked about and addressed, the Jewish people cannot survive.

Ben-Moreh, director of Meitar, the College for Judaism as Culture, said their position as journalists and reporters allows them to raise issues that would otherwise be ignored.

Tell the truth when you see it," he said, adding that

tensions Judaism have not been talked about as much as they should be.

Do the Write Thing participants also heard from Israelis from diverse political stripes on contemporary challenges facing Israel.

Itay Gadot, from Beitar Tagar, a right wing youth Zionist group, and Mairav Zonszein, from the leftwing Union of Progressive Zionists, spoke to the students about the implications of Israel's recent withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

Gadot spoke to the stu-

issues such as religious/sec- dents about the importance within of vocabulary when writing or covering Israeli and Jewish affairs.

> "Choose your words carefully. We're falling into the wrong use of words," he said, citing occupation, militants, apartheid and disengagement as terms that need to be questioned and challenged when used in jour-

During the weekend, the students also heard from the author of Why I am a Zionist, Gil Troy, Canadian Jewish News Editor Mordechai ben-Dat, Jerusalem Post Editor David Horovitz and Hirschberg.

Throughout the workshop, the attendees were told that, through raising issues in the media and learning from past mistakes, the students could make a difference and strengthen the Jewish world, a point the Jewish Agency's Jankelowitz pointed out repeatedly.

"A people with no present and no past has no future," Jankelowitz said.

Do the Write Thing was organized by the World Zionist Organization - USD Hagshama and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Tu B'Shevat Seder in a nutshell

(Continued from page 12)

In fact, environmentally conscious educators have suggested that the Seder include the reciting of a list of makot (plagues) in the modem world, such as air pollution, water contamination, noise abuse, wanton destruction, causing the extinction of species, disregard for the environment (littering, using

toxic materials, etc.) and not thinking of the future.

Tu B'Shevat Haggadahs typically, however, reaffirm our bond with the Land of Israel, rejoice in its rebirth and pledge to share in its rebuilding.

One Tu B'Shevat Haggadab includes part of President Chaim Weizmann's emotion-packed

when he opened the first Knesset of the State of Israel on Tu B'Shevat 1949: "Every Jew has a connection to Eretz Yisrael. We pray that the incoming of the exiles will bring in more and more people who will strike roots and work together with all of us to build the State of Israel and make the desolated land flower ...'





(Continued from page 13)

Anna and Samuel Wex Family Fund In Memory of:

Martinus Reicys by Anna and Sam Wex; and the Wex and Aaron Families. In Honour of:

Elaine Wolfish Best wishes on your special birthday. Wishing you many more in good health by Anna and Sam Wex.

Carolyn and Adam Telner Mazal Toy on the engagement of Susan to Herbert Brill hy Anna and Sam Wex; and Molly Wex. Naemi and Allan Cracower Mazal Tov on

the engagement of your son Johnny by Molly

Anna and Samuel Wex Best wishes on your 43rd wedding anniversary by Molly Wex.

Carole and Norman Zagerman Family Fund

In Memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Carole and Norman Zagerman and Andrea Arron.

Sylvia Saslove by Carole and Norman Zagerman and Andrea Arron.

In Honour of:

Sara Shabsove Wishing you continued good health by Carole and Norman Zagerman.

IN MEMORY OF:

Adele Gordon by Zahava and Barry Farber and Family

Abe Hochberg by Peter Liebel.

Lillian Kimmel by The Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge.

Annie Philippson by Elaine and Stephen Wiseman; The Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada; Saundra and Harry Chelin and Family; Kathy and Jeff Chelin; Helen Wiseman; Sandi Ken, Jordy, Anat, Luke, Ethan and Laurel Cole: the Sandell and Garmaise Families; William Bloom; Evelyn Monson and Robert Elder: Mary Monigomery; Rebecca and Sam Halpern; Betty Sanders; and Rhoda and Jeff Abbey and Zach

Sam Schaenfield by Roz and Steve Fremeth; Wendy and Yigal Hadad; Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan; Patricia Orme; Mara and Isaac Muzikansky; Jan and Charlie Mills; Morley Goldfield and Family; Gladys and John Greenberg; Arlene and Mel Schwey; and Lisa Sandell and Annie Garmaise.

Anna Clavier by the Sandell and Garmaise

Mona Slover by Andrea Cantrell Jones. George Allen by Roz and Stan Labow

Mother of Dr. Michael Bell by Roz and Stan

Leslie Blumenthal by Rhonda and Danny Levine and Family; Bonnie, Bruce, Matthew. Hana and Sabrina Engel.

Nathan Waserman by Beverly, David, Jory and Mark Gluzman.

Nessie Waserman by Yvonne and Ychnda Azuelos.

Abiga Kingson by Lisa Sandell. Dora Ilivitsky by Helen Rosenthal. Sylvia Saslove by Evelyn Rivers.

IN HONOUR OF:

Jeffrey Pleet Wishing you a Happy 50th Birthday by Zahava and Barry Farber and

Robert Smith Wishing you a very Happy 60th Birthday by Barbara, Alexandra and Rebecca Fine.

Mr. and Mrs. Sandford Libow Happy 50th Anniversary by Laya and Sol Shabinsky.

Dr. David Malek Thank you for your exper-

tise and kindness. They are much appreciated by the Shore Family.

Betty Ballon Wishing you a very Happy and Healthy Birthday by Joyce and Millo Kimmel; and Dorothy and Maurie Karp and

Dr. Shibata, Deb and Staff of Greenbank Animal Hospital Thank you for a lifetime of caring for Toby. Your kindness will always be remembered by Marcia and Dick Zuker.

Mary Goldberg Wishing you a very Happy Birthday by Carolyn and Sid Katz. Minnie Greenberg Best wishes for a very

Happy Birthday by Gladys Bodnoff. Sylvia and Michael Caplan Mazal Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Cary and Ed Lander.

R'FUAH SHLEMA:

Ricki Baker by Sarah and Steven Morgan. Nancy Pleet by Celia Levitan.

Karyn Farher hy Bert and Abe Klugsberg. Jack Lazarus by Ethel Bloom and Sam

In Memoriam

When the hearth grows dark and the embers fade A warmth remains that the fire made And the fortunate ones who were there to know Can warm their hearts In the afterglow,

> written by Jo Retallack (1976)

The Board of Directors. Lodge Foundation, Residents and Staff deeply mourn the passing

of Lillian Kimmel,

Past President (1989 - 1991).





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Lodge needs new Bingo leader

Monday nights and Friday afternoons, residents of Hillel Lodge enjoy getting together to try their luck. The Monday night bingos are run by an outstanding group of volunteers, who alternate every other week. They come and set up the machine, pass out the cards, keep the games rolling, dole out the prizes of loonies and toonies and create an hour of pure enjoyment for the residents.

One of the Monday night regulars, Eric Weiner, is retiring after five years of dedicated volunteer service. The Lodge needs to find a replacement as soon as possible. Just an hour every other week, for someone to oversee the program, brings the residents a lot of happiness and excitement.

The funding for this program is already in place, generously donated by B'nai Brith Ottawa Lodge. There are students and various community members who volunteer to assist. This would be an ideal program for a family mitzvah, an organization or group to take on.

For more information contact Cheryl Cogan (728-3900, ext. 191) or Marilyn Adler (728-3900, ext.121).

2005 CanWest Spirit Award winner

The 2005 CanWest Spirit Award for the Otiawa region has been awarded to Louise Rachlis. The award recognizes a CanWest employee who has made a significant contribution to the community in which they live.

CanWest will issue a \$1,000 donation to the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation on her behalf.

Rachlis is the founding editor of Challenge Life with Cancer, the semi-annual publication of the Otawa Regional Cancer Foundation. Since 1996, she has been volunteering time to put out this magazine, which provides education and support to cancer patients and their families. The magazine won the 1998 Association of Health Care Philanthropy Award.

This year, Rachlis combined two of her loves – running and writing – in a short motivational book on running, which she produced to raise funds for the Ottawa Hospital. The Citizen agreed it was a great project and



Louise Rachlis

published the book, called 20 Steps. Its subtitle, Twenty Steps to Keep You Going When You Think You Couldn't Possibly – In Running and In Life says a lot about her philosophy.

Rachlis is also an acrylic and watercolor artist, who sells her work professionally, but also generously donates it to help charitable groups raise funds. The Juvenile Diabetes Association, REACH, the Ottawa-Carleton Immigrant Services Organization, Friends of the Farm, the Women's Business Network and others have benefited from her donations.

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Fireman visits Jewish Preschool of the Arts



The students of The Jewish Preschool of the Arts were delighted recently by a visit from local fireman, Lorne Shusterman. Shusterman, who is a captain at the Barrhaven Fire Station, told the eager students about going to school to become a fireman, sleeping at the stationhouse, eating chicken soup and sliding down the poll when the alarm sounds.

He also talked about fire safety, including not playing with matches and "stop, drop and roll." The students and staff were in awe at how quickly he could get dressed in his gear! At the end of the visit, the students were able to try on Shusterman's heavy helmet, giant boots and pants, end even his special fireman coat.

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Teenager's life-altering trip to Poland and Israel

By Shira Brass

I went on NCSY's annual regional Shabbaton at Camp Manitou expecting to have a great weckend. Little did I know what I would come home with.

There was a raffle at the Shabbaton for one person to win a free trip on one of the many amazing summer programs NCSY has to offer. I couldn't helieve it when I found out I won!

I chose to go on NCSY's Israel Leadership Challenge (ILC). This trip involved spending one week in Poland, viewing the remnants of Jewish life there and its destruction as a result of the Holo-

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caust, and then spending four and a half weeks touring lsrael. stones told us how cultured thrown to their deaths. When and educated the Jews were. we saw the asies of the There were tombstones of remains of thousands who

It began in Jate June when I met an excited group of high school students from all over North America at JFK Airport in New York City ready to embark for Poland. Thirty-two students and six staff set off for the trip of a lifetime.

In Poland, we were about to discover a world that had once existed and that was brutally destroyed because of baseless hatred.

Our voyage into our past began with a visit to the old Jewish cemetery in Warsaw. The writing on the tomb-

Temple Israel

stones told us how cultured and educated the Jews were. There were tombstones of authors, actors, doctors and of other Jews of varying backgrounds.

Just as many of the tombstones in the graveyard were knocked over and desecrated, so were the lives of millions of Jews living in Europe. The most striking part of our visit to the cemetery was when we went to an area of grass that caved into the ground. Below that grass lay the hodies of 70,000 Jews murdered. It was then I realized how much destruction occurred during the Holocaust.

Over the course of the next few days, we visited the remains of what was once a beautiful, and rich, cultural Jewish life and saw how it was brutally destroyed. We toured the remains of old Jewish synagogues from before the Holocaust, and visited the concentration camps where millions of Jews were savagely murdered.

It was an eeric feeling walking through the concentration camps and thinking that was where my family might have been murdered.

In Majdanek Concentration Camp, after entering the gas chamber, the door was slammed shut and locked. I could see the scratch marks on the walls of people who had tried to escape. But there was no escape.

We walked through a barrack that was filled with shoes – thousands of shoes. Those were the last shoes people were before they were thrown to their deaths. When we saw the ashes of the remains of thousands who were killed, I was instilled with two powerful words, "Never Again."

The contrast
from Poland
when we arrived
in Israel
was amazing.
It gave us
a feeling

Plaszow was the last concentration camp we went to before going to Israel. It was an amazing feeling as our group sang together L'boker habah b'Yerushalatim, "Next morning in Jerusalem," changing the words of "Next year in Jerusalem."

of belonging.

The contrast from Poland when we arrived in Israel was amazing. It gave us a feeling of helonging. In Poland, as Jews, there was a feeling that we were not welcome, that we were different. In Israel, it felt like we were at home.

Our first stop was to the Kotel, the holiest site for Jews. After being in the most miserable place for Jews, being at the Kotel gave us the most amazing feeling. At the Kotel, seeing Jews from all different backgrounds united together made me feel a very strong connection to all Jews and to isree!

The next four and a half

weeks were spent touring the entire country. From visiting the Knesset, to cruising along the Kinneret, to hiking in the Golan Heights, to spending Shabbat in the mystical city of Sefat, to enjoying a weekend with my family near Tel Aviv, to snorkelling in the coral reef in Eilat, to floating in the Dead Sea, this was the most amazing summer experience ever.

The trip made me look at life in a different way. As my group and I sat together in a barrack in Auschwitz, we discussed what we would take home with us from the trip.

I spoke with my group and said that I would learn to be more appreciative of all the things I have. I realized how lucky I am to be living in a society where I can freely express my views and live my life according to my faith, without fear of persecution. I do not have to fear being discriminated against for being Jewish, or for having a political point of view.

I also learned to be more grateful for the things in life we often take for granted. I have food on my table, I sleep in a nice comfortable bed and I come home every night to see my family.

The experiences I gained from ILC will last a lifetime. I made lifelong friends and memories I will cherish forever. I would recommend a trip like this to anyone interested. NCSY offers many other excellent summer programs for teenagers. You can check them out on their website, www.ncsyottawa.com, for more information.

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SOLOWAY JCC

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RECOGNIZING SOLOWAY JCC VOLUNTEERS AND LEADERS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

THE BEN-KARP SOLOWAY JCC VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Presented by the Ben Karp Family and the Soloway JCC to the volunteer who best exemplifies communal concern and sets an ongoing example for others. Their true benevolence endures forever.



LAWRENCE SILBER served on the Board of Directors of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre from 1996 to 2004. He was Chair of the Board in 2002 · 2003 and Immediate Past Chair in 2004. He was on the board during the transition Irom Chapel Street to the current location and participated in the challenges that the move to the Broadview campus presented.

Lawrence is an ex-Montreal who moved to Ottawa. Joining the Board of the Soloway JCC was his first significant involvement in the Jewish Community.

Lawrence was Involved in drafting the current by-laws of the Soloway JCC. During his time on the board, he participated on the building committee, finance committee, the strategic planning task force, the programming committee and the revenue development committee.

Lawrence's Involvement in the community also included participation in the organizing committee for the Canadian Jewish Congress annual meeting held in Ottawa in early 2005.

Outside the Jewish Community, Lawrence has served on the Board of the Ottawa-Carleton Board of Trade, the Canadiaŋ Tulip Festival, Habitat for Humanity, National Capital Region and Canadian Mothercraft of Ottawa-Carleton.

Lawrence has participated as a board member and officer of the Canadian Council of Jewish Community Centres. He was a delegate to 3 Blennial conferences of the Jewish Community Centres of North America and participated in several leadership conferences organized by the Soloway JCC. Lawrence has met numerous volunteers in the course of his participation in Canada and the United States and feels that it is the interaction and dialogue with this large group of people that has stimulated his community mindedness and the need to "give something back".

In his professional life, Lawrence Is a lawyer practicing business law with Kelly, Santini. He teaches Real Property Law for the Ontario Real Estate Association and is a member of the Ottawa Estate Planning Council, Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners and the Canadian Association of Family Enterprises.

He has been married for 22 years to Shari and has 2 children, Erin 15 and Zachary 12.

THE CHAIR AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE

ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006 • 7:00 PM
Nathan, David and Max Zelikovitz Families • Social Hall A
The Joseph & Rose Ages Family Building • 21 Nadolny Sachs Private

GROSSMAN-KLEIN TEEN LEADERSHIP AWARD

Presented by the Grossman-Klein Family and the Soloway JCC to one male and one female youth who have shown outstanding dedication and service to the Jewish Community throughout their teenage years.





ASHER FARBER & JENNIFER HADAD

ASHER FARBER is a Grade 12 student at Sir Robert Borden High School and is a graduate of Hillel Academy. He is a talented musician who plays both the tenor and alto saxophone, the oboe and the piano. He has competed and placed first in city-wide piano competitions. He is also a member of the Jewish Klezmer band that has played at the Soloway JCC and other community-wide events.

In high school, Asher has been an active member of the band and he is also currently the Treasurer of the Sir Robert Borden High School Students' Council.

Within the Jewish community, Asher helps read from the Torah at Agudath Israel and attends a weekly Talmud class at the SolowayJCC. He is one of 19 students from Ottawa participating in the 2006 March of the Living.

Asher has also joined the NCSY Student Cabinet and has been helping to organize social and educational programs across Ottawa for Jewish teens.

JENNIFER HADAD is in Grade II at Sir Robert Borden High School and is a graduate of Hillel Academy. Jen Is a very capable, intelligent, and warm person who is truly dedicated to the Jewish community and her friends and lamily.

In high school, Jen plays on the water-polo and rugby teams. This requires a strong time commitment and an ability to balance school-work with extra-curricular activities.

Jen has been active in NCSY this year helping to plan educational and social programs across Ottawa for Jewish teens. She is active in BBYO and currently serves on her Chapter Executive, planning the programs and events.

JEN AND ASHER were egual partners in establishing the Jewish Culture Club at Sir Robert Borden High School. The students, with the assistance of NCSY, had been trying to setup a Jewish Culture Club at SRB since September 2004. Jen started helping more actively with the Jewish Culture Club at the beginning of this school year and has made it her priority since then. Towards the end of the 2004-200S school year, a Jewish Culture Club was started at Asher's home until one could take place at the school. The Jewish Culture Club formally started at SRB on December 6, 200S. Jen and Asher have also been at the loretront of promoting the club to other students and have lead Jewish discussions with their fellow students.

Both, Asher and Jen exemplify Jewish leadership and their involvement serves as an example to other Jewish teenagers.

SOLOWAY JCC

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THE CHAIR AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE INVITE YOU TO ATTENO THE

ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2006 • 7:00 PM

Nathan, David and Max Zelikovitz Families • Social Hall A The Joseph & Rose Ages Family Building • 21 Nadolny Sachs Private R.S.V.P Jodle Gencher at (613) 798-9818 ext. 221 or jgencher@jccottawa.com



SOLOWAY JCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS (as of February 16, 2006)

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TERM EXPIRES ANNUAL MEETING 200B

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Or. Bruria Cooperman

(Term expires Annual Meeting 2007)

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SYNAGOGUE AND JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE OF OTTAWA

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SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of the Members of the SYNAGOGUE AND JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE OF OTTAWA (the Corporation) will be held in:

The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building

21 Nadolny Sachs Private • Ottawa, Ontario

Thursday, February 16, 2006 at the hour of 7:00 p.m.

in the Nathan, David & Max Zelikovitz Families Social Hall A

The said meeting is called for the purpose of discussing any matters in connection with the Corporation as required under By-Law Number 1, to include:

- 1. Review of the Financial Report and Appointment of the Auditors;
- 2. Presentation of Awards:
 - · The Ben Karp-Soloway JCC Volunteer Service Award

Lawrence Silber

Grossman-Klein Family Teen Leadership Awards

Jennifer Hadad Asher Farber

- 3. Election of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre Board of Directors
- 4. Transact such further business as may be properly brought before the meeting.

A copy of the Financial Statements and the Auditor's Report will be available for review at the Head Office of the Corporation after January 24, 2006, or via e-mail request at jgencher@jccottawa.com.

DATED at Ottawa, this 12th day of January, 2006.

Callum

Dr. Bruria Cooperman Chair of the Board

inspiring jewish journeys

MARCH AND PASSOVER BREAK CAMPS

MARCH BREAK CAMP MARCH 13 - MARCH 17

Come and enjoy good times at the SolowayJCC featuring a full week of games, sports, swimming, crafts theme days and outings. Register for 1 day or all 5 days.

Monday • Down with Dirt Tuesday • Purim Fun Wednesday • Wacky Science Thursday • Edible Concoction Day Friday • Outer Space

FEBRUARY 10 • 8:30 AM TO 3:00 PM

PD Day Special Program

Senior Kindergarten to Grade 6 \$30 M / \$45 NM per day \$25 M / \$35 NM per day (2nd Child)

PASSOVER CAMP - APRIL 17, 18 & 19

The days of Passover Camp are filled with all kinds of cool games, sports, outings, activities and theme days. Play with old friends and make new ones. Sign up for 1 day or all 3 days.

8:30 am - 4:00 pm (after-care will only be available for April 17) Fees: \$40 M / \$55 NM/day • \$30 M / \$45 NM/day (2nd Child)

*Cost includes a Kosher for Passover lunch and snacks on the 17th and 18th only. Lunch will not be provided on the 21st.

EXTENDED CARE

The after-care program is available to all participants registered in PD Day Programs, March Break Camp and Passover Camp (April 17th only) 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm (Monday - Thursday)
Fees: \$10/day M • \$12/day NM \$7/day M (2nd child)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT GAIL LIEFF AT 798-9818 EXT.303 OR GLIEFF@JCCOTTAWA.COM

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REGISTRATION DATES Monday, Jan. 30 - Friday, Feb. 10 Registration for Soloway JCC members presently enrolled (Registration begins at 8:00 am)

Monday, Feb. 13 - Monday, Feb. 20 Registration for non-members presently enrolled and for Soloway JCC members not currently enrolled (Registration begins at 8:00 am)

Monday, Feb. 20 - Open Registration

\$500*
BONUS
PACKAGE

Bonus package to Soloway JCC Members who register prior to March 3, 2006.

*Package available after May I, 2006

Life is Wonderful

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER KWAVNICK, DIRECTOR OF SOLOWAY JCC GANON PRESCHOOL

AT 798-9818 EXT. 280 OR JKWAVNICK@JCCOTTAWA.COM • WWW.JCCOTTAWA.COM

New Tribute Cards



Tribute Cards are an appropriate way to mark an occasion or honour/memorialize friends or relatives. You can donate any amount starting at twelve dollars and we will send an acknowledgement according to your wishes.

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NATCH NEXT OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN FOR DETAILS OF UPCOMING SINGLES EVENTS

SOLOWAY JCC

So You Think You Can Dance?! Are You Artsy Fartsy?! Are You a Good SPORT About Things?!

The Soloway JCC Day Camp is looking for mature individuals who are interested in one of the following areas:

- Dance and Drama
- Arts and Crafts
- Sports

This person would be responsible for developing and implementing a Specialty Program for children ages 3-14. This full time position is for a seven week period starting July 3, 2006 and ending August 18, 2006.

All interested applicants please bring a resume to the Soloway JCC located at 21 Nadolny Sachs Private to the attention of Amy Siggner.

> For more information please contact Amy Siggner at 798-9818 ext. 258 or asiggner@jccottawa.com



MAY 27-28 SOFTBALL MARATHON

IN SUPPORT OF THE SOLOWAY JCC

For more information please contact Anna Silverman at 798-9818 ext. 225 asilverman@jccottawa.com

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FEBRUARY 7 -MARCH 28 TUESDAY

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

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E.C.E. TEACHING POSITION

The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Ganon Preschool is looking to hire a teacher for the 4 year old - Junior Kindergarten program. The candidate must have a diploma in Early Childood Education or an equilivant. Knowledge of Judaica required. Start date is September 2006. Send your resume by February 10, 2006 to : Jkwavnick@jccottawa.com or fax to Jennifer Kwavnick at 613.798.9838.

THE MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT OF THE SOLOWAY JCC

has an immediate opening for an organized, results driven person as Membership Sales Representative. The position is part time, and you must be available to work evenings and Sunday afternoons. The candidate should have excellent communication and telephone skills and proven keyboarding and computer experience. Knowledge of the Ottawa Jewish community a definite asset. An ability to work professionally and Independently a must. INTERESTED CANDIDATES SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR RESUME TO ELLIE GREENBERG BY FAX 613-798-9839 OR EMAIL AT EGREENBERG®JCCOTTAWA.COM

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Jewish Community Service Awards

Members of the Jewish community are invited to nominate individuals to receive the following community awards at the Annual General Meeting of the Federation in early June.

Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award

The Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award is the highest tribute that the Ottawa Jewish Community can bestow on an individual for exceptional service over the course of many years. Initiated in 1980, it bears the name of the late Past President of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, Gilbert Greenberg, who exemplified the qualities of leadership. which the award endcavours to recognize

Freiman Family Young Leadership Award

The Freiman Family Young Leadership Award recognizes an individual or an organization within the Jewish community, under the age of 40, who has contributed actively to the Jewish community in the two or more years following his/her partleipation in the Young Leadership Development Program, or as a young leader rendered exceptional service to the Jewish community,

The Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award

"There are three crowns: the crown of Torah, the crown of priesthood, and the crown of kingship; but the crown of a good name excels them all." - Rabbi Shimon

The Shem Toy Community Volunteer Award was created to recognize an outstanding and active volunteer with the Jewish community who, through many years of service, has contributed to the enrichment of Jewish life in Ottawa.

Address Recommendations by March 31, 2006 to:

Nominations for Community Award c/o Chair of the Selection Committee Jewish Federation of Ottawa 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9

For more information, please visit www.jewishottawa.com

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BSW hosts sessions on dealing with the elderly

By Bob Dale

Congregation Shalom West, in partnership with Jewish Family Services and the SJCC, is hosting four sessions on dealing with the elderly.

"Many of us included - are trying to cope with a range of difficult problems related to our aging relatives," says Rabbi Howard Finkelstein, spiritual leader of Beth Shalom

"They encompass many areas, including finances, health, the law, living arrangements, physical safety and of course, our own emotions. This program will offer guidance on how to deal with important issues like these."

The schedule is as fol-

February 21: Introduction - The spiritual, psychosocial and emotional aspects of taking care of the the elderly and their care.



Howard Finkelsetin

elderly, with speakers Iris Beer, social worker at Jewish Family Services; and Rabbi Howard Finkelstein.

February 28: The legal aspects of taking care of the elderly, with speaker Russell Gibson of Vincent, Dagenais, Gibson.

Gibson is an estate lawyer who will deal with the legal issues concerning

March 21: assessment of the clderly individual, with speakers Carmen Rodrigue, psychological geriatric resource consultant; and Dr. Jonathan Isserlin, chief of geriatrics, Queensway Carleton Hospital.

March 28: Options for the elderly, with speakers Wendy Birkhan of Homewatch Caregivers; Marie France Lalonde, Retirement Residences Group: and Stephen Schneiderman, executive director of Hillel Lodge.

The program is open to the entire community, and will take place at Congregation Beth Shalom West, 15 Chartwell Avenue.

Admission fee is \$10.for each session, or all four sessions for \$30. Starting time is 7:30 pm.

For more information, contact Rabbi Finkelstein

Workshop transforms the darkness to light

You've heard the phrase "don't think obstacles - think opportunities for growth"?

Chassidic philosophy has other terms that express the same concept, such as "transforming the darkness to light," or "converting the bitter to sweet."

Ever wonder how to do that? How to rethink/ reframe a negative event and understand it in a different and positive way?

This past summer, Neshi Rodin and Devorah Agulnik, members of Machson Tzvi Hersh, began to consider these ideas very seriously, resulting in the development of a two-day workshop for women which took place in the hills of Ste. Agathe.

Sara Tova Best, an experienced coach and facilitator from New York, structured the workshop around the Chassidic concept of "open your eyes."

She taught ways of "bringing the aleph out of the ayin" - two Hebrew letters in which the "Ayin" represents a state of confusion and chaos (Galus/Exile) and the "Aleph" stands for a state of clarity, focus and serenity (Geula/Redemption).

The workshop proved to be so inspiring and exhilarating that in the fall, the Machson brought Sara Tova to Ottawa, and a second workshop, "turning stumbling blocks to stepping stones," was held.

Chemda Moss, experienced Yoga teacher, and Dr. R. Schwartz, family practitioner, family therapist and singer/songwriter, joined the group, teaching strategies for changing perceptions and reframing difficult situations.

The third workshop in this series is scheduled for Sunday, February 12. Participants will continue to learn effective and powerful strategies and tools for reframing difficult situations and transforming the darkness to light."

All women are invited to attend this practical and inspiring event. Proceeds will go to benefit Achai Counseling Services.

For more information call Neshi (722-2813) or Devorah

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The SJCC, the place to meet Jewish girls

Apart from Loblaw's kosher section, the Soloway JCC is "Kreplach," "Cheese Blintzes" and "The Chanukah Machine," the centre for Jewish life in Ottawa and where gossip is exchanged as fast as recipes for kugel.

Byron has been a member for a year and Paul recently

We joined to meet Jewish girls. We even had free passes at another gym. Our mothers are probably very happy. It was getting a little much when we were seen pushing a shopping cart together in Loblaws. You'd be surprised what people say. ("Oh, he likes brisket eh ...")

The SJCC should have a new addition to their membership package. Forget about Chai membership; consider the "Looking for nice Jewish girls" package. The centre would ensure that both guys and girls were meeting and flirting. The machines at certain times of the day would be reserved for young, attractive people looking to meet.

Paul likes meeting people of all ages, but has enough numbers from woman over 70 (he needed a matzah ball recipe).

In most gyms, as people lift weights, you hear them straining saying "ahhh" as they lift strenuously. At the SJCC you hear nothing but "Oy!" We like that. It's comforting.

The gym is a Jewish mother's fantasy for her son. It's an oasis and a mecca for meeting Jewish girls. The SJCC gym is the modern day version of the arranged marriage; it's the arranged workout.

The staff is friendly and informative. The machinery is great and there is everything you need. What we would change is to have each machine assigned a theme, such as what you are trying to burn off. There would be the "Shabbat dinner."

where you work out for the equivalent of eight days. (What a work out!) For major stress relief, try the "My son is dating a Shiksa," where you just beat the hell out of a punching bag!

The environment is nice, although it does need a little more pizzazz. The music should be a little bit louder. Possibly throw some Beastie boys on there. How many Jewish rappers are there? We might as well support them.

You can see a TV screen from anywhere. But the programming should get more creative. Maybe play old videos from members' Bar and Bat Mitzvahs?

Our gym is extremely clean, which is a must. We like the familiarity and how a lot of people earry Loblaws bags with their running shoes in them.

The gym has a good water cooler with individual cups so it's totally hygienic. No one puts their mouth on the tap. On special holidays, water should be replaced by Manishevitz. People will get a little bit more laid back.

Now to the men's locker room.

Pants were created for a reason. From the second we walked in, we were bombarded with older Jewish men walking around with their knish's hanging around each and every which way. We understand it's a change room, but these guys walk around and socialize totally naked.

So Bernie, how was the fast on Yom Kippur?"

"Did you try the sponge cake at the kiddush the other day?" They are having real conversations totally nude. It's the Jewish version of Oz

Closing our eyes, we go in and out as fast as possible. The



truth is we will totally be those guys in 40 years; we will probably be worse. Who are we kidding? That's us today, just that we wear pants.

The overall feel of this gym is a great one. It's a very cool place to chill. We highly recommend it to everyone.

As for our search for nice Jewish girls, it continues. We have met a few, nothing to write home about just yet. We will keep you in the loop.

Go get a SJCC membership, enjoy the facility and, if you see a naked older person walking around and it's not you in the mirror, smile and realize that will be you before you know it.

She has the morals of a cat

When I was a boy, my mother was upset with the number of mice she detected in the cupboards, so our family

She was a beautiful little black kitten named Minnie. We picked her out of our neighbour's cat litter in the fall. Since my brother and I were in school most of the day and my father worked in the store, it fell to my mother to take care

At first, everyone loved to pet this little black fur ball. As she got older, my mother was especially pleased with Minnie, who would catch mice and bring them to her for inspection. Minnie would get extra cream for these efforts. Sometimes she would use the mouse like a toy or bat it around like a badminton birdie.

This was a little bit disturbing.

In many ways, though, my mother had no idea how to deal with a cat. She had never had a cat before, only a dog when she was a little girl. So she was always trying to get Minnie to fetch a ball. This was, however, only partially successful, and only when Minnie was small. Even then, the kitten would knock the ball around rather than bring it

Then one day, as I was doing my homework, I heard Minnie yowling for all she was worth. My mother was yelling and water was splashing in the bathtub. My brother and I ran in to see my mother trying to give Minnie a bath. Minnie's loud yowls got louder along with my mother's Yiddish curses and exclamations.

Minnie looked like a fur buzz saw with her legs flailing and her claws out. She was hanging on to my mother for dear life. Fortunately, we were able to take her off my mother with a towel. She looked like a drowned rat after the bath, even as we towelled her dry.

After getting scratched severely on the arms, my mother finally accepted our arguments that cats washed themselves. But I think she was somewhat resentful that Minnie, unlike everyone else, did not have to take a bath.

I am sad to say, though, that Minnie did not last long in our house, despite her skills as a mouser. It all had to do



Humour me, please

Rubin Friedman

with my mother's strict sense of decorum and morality. It happened like this.

My parents let Minnie go out at night in the spring, keeping the window open for her return. But Minnie matured very quickly and, by the late spring, she was being courted by every tomcat in the neighbourhood.

Every night, there was a feline serenade outside my mother's bedroom window. My mother claimed to be disturbed by all this meowing, but I soon realized that she was really shocked by Minnie's lack of morals. She used very nasty Yiddish words to describe Minnie's behaviour and, by the time summer was half over, she decided to give Minnie

My mother refused to discuss it, despite my earnest pleas. She marched with Minnie in a box directly to the Humane Society.

When she eame back, her red embarrassed look when I asked why we had to give Minnie away, her muttered comments about Minnie needing to control her urges and her later comments about "that hussy" (in Yiddish, of course) confirmed what I had suspected. Minnie had doomed herself by her loose ways.

I have never owned another cat since then, but strangely, whenever I walk down a street, cats sense that I am sympathetic. I stop and look at them with sadness and they come over and curl around my legs. I am not shocked by their immoral behaviour. I reach down, pet them and am com-

Alas for Minnie and the rites of spring

Mazal Tov!

Marilyn and William Newman are pleased to announce the marriage of their son Theodore Andrew to Ginger Ann Veazey which took place recently in the Carribean.

It's a boy!

LEtTH - David, Lisa (née tsenberg) and big sister Sydney are overjoyed to announce the birth of Zachary Joshua on November 24, 2005, 5 lb 9 t/2 oz. Excited grandparents are Phyllis Leith and Seymour and Arlene tsenherg. Zachary is named in loving memory of his Zadie, Bill Leith and his great-grandparents, Moses and Jean Nissenbaum. Heartfelt thanks to Drs. Barwin, Haebe, Huard and



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VOLUNTEER CORNER

Volunteer Gorner is courtesy of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. All beneficiary agencies are invited to list their volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer Opportunities JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

These people really need your help.

· Winter months eause our volunteer numbers to deeline. Kosher Meals on Wheels drivers need to be replaced. Please call to find out how you can help.

· Do you speak Slovak? A very special request for a senior who lives in Aylmer. She would love to be able to chat with someone in her own language. Enjoys art. Mobility is a problem, so a home visit would be preferable.

· Male volunteer to drive and escort an Alta Vista male senior who would like to attend a four-hour program on Tuesdays.

· Bowling partner (with ear) needed for a keen, passionate bowler (large pins only) (near Broadview), who moved from Montreal. A couple of times a month would be ideal

· Russian couple, both seniors (who speak English as well), nced help with grocery shopping once a month. Location off St. Laurent Blvd.

· URGENT need for winter drivers. Arc you a driver? Have you been thinking about volunteering this winter? Help a senior get to a medical appointment when family or other means of transportation is unavailable. Help us to help them.

· Engaging and sociable Alta Vista senior is interested in walks, movies, visits to the library or malls. Can you fit this into your schedule every now and then?

· Seniors in our community are languishing in long-term facilities without visitors. Show them we eare. Visit a few hours

> For more information on any of the above, please call Bev Grostern at 722-2225, #304

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· STILL AN URGENT REQUEST! Great Opportunity... to run an existing BINGO program on Monday evenings, 7-8 pm, only once every two weeks. Funding atready in place. It requires someone to set up the ball machine and keep the games rolling ... Volunteers could be from an organization, community group, family, school or synagogue. If you are looking for a rewarding & fun evening ... while helping others at the same time ... this could be the opportunity for you! Please call today for further information.

· A Great Way To Visit! ... Join in one of our recreation programs or special events ... We require assistance at activities with the residents; i.e., serving tea, portering and generally lending a helping hand. Choose your event. Can be once in a while or on a regular basis. Approx. 2 hours ... and it's always entertaining! Please add your name to this call list today.

Attention High School students ... A great place to visit and learn ... while gaining valuable experience and volunteer hours for community service requirement. Help out with recreation programs, entertainment and special holiday events on Sun-day afternoons, Shul Services or Monday night Bingo. Please call for a registration and orientation appointment.

· We have a gentlemen in need of company on a regular basis ... If you have some time to make a new friend ... please call today.

· Administrative Help - spend a few hours weekdays assisting with clerical and reception duties.

· Entertainers - got a talent? Performers are welcome to apply and be enjoyed by all!

A little time ... goes a long way at the Lodge!

Please eall Cheryl Cogan, Co-ordinator of Volunteers at 728-3900 ext. 191. Or cmail ccogan@hillel-ltc.com Students welcome (please note: chitdren under the age of 14 require adult accompaniment)

Fiction titles to pick and choose from

In my last column, I listed some non-fiction titles I wish I

Again, rather than let these promising fiction reads go unnoticed because of my own time constraints, I'm bringing them to your attention.

The Schocken Book of Modern Sephardic Literature Edited and with an introduction by Ilan Stavans

Schocken/Random House Hardcover, 2005 (ISBN 0-8052-4228-7)

Anthologies are great if you don't want to commit to reading an entire book. Twenty-eight writers from 18 countries spanning 150 years have contributed to this one, a collection of essays, poetry, fiction and memoirs. You'll find Italian Primo Levi in here, Israeli A.B. Yehoshua, Bulgarian Nobel laureate Elias Canetti, even American Emma Lazarus.

The authors are all Jewish (even if through mixed marriages), and define themselves as Sephardim. The material is global - these writers write in nine different languages, Ladino included. And it is not exhaustive. Interestingly, there's an entry by Salmon Rushdie, who is not Jewish, but who often uses Jewish themes in his writing.

The Washington Post described this anthology's editor, Ilan Stavans, as "Latin America's liveliest and boldest critic and most innovative cultural enthusiast," while the Forward referred to him as "a maverick intellectual whose canonical work has already produced a whole array of marvels that are redefining Jewishness."

A Tree Grows In Brooklyn

By Betty Smith Perennial Classics/Harper Collins Softcover, 2005 (ISBN 0-06-0736-267)

I'm embarrassed to say I've never read this book, although it's on my reading list and will remain so until I do. It is a classic (the New York Public Library called it "one of the books of the century") and deserves to be mentioned here, if only as a reminder that you might want to give it a try

It begins when its protagonist, Francie Nolan, is 11 years old in 1912 Brooklyn. The story revolves around Francie's life in particular, but also that of her parents, an almost good-fornothing, romantic dreamer of a father and a self-sacrificing mother, and her brother, the favoured child.

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn is about life and its hardships, facing its travails head-on and with courage, making one's own way in it.

> The Secret Mitzvah of Lucio Burke By Steven Hayward

Alfred A. Knopf Canada/Random House Hardcover, 2005 (ISBN 0-676-97703-0)

1933 Toronto, summertime. Canada in the 30s. Young men wearing swastikas walk

through the city's streets. Signs at Kew Beach say "No Jews Allowed." It is a city with its own share of anti-Semitism. Lucio Burke calls Toronto

home and it is where he finds himself, on the pitching mound, in what became the most infamous baseball game in the history of this country: the riot at Christie Pits.

Toronto born-and-bred. author Steven Hayward makes his home in Ohio teaching English at John Carroll University. While he has won awards for his shorter fictional works, this is his first novel. Touted as a comedy, it has received rave reviews.



The Book Beat

Kinneret Globerman

Conspirators By Michael Andre Bernstein Harper Collins

Softcover 2004 (ISBN 10-00063-9324-1)

This intricate story, which was short-listed for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize of "Best First Book, Caribbean and Canada Region," takes place in 1913 in Galicia, in the soonto-implode Austrian-Hungarian Empire. The cast includes revolutionary Hans Rotenburg, vunder Rabbi Moses Brugger, and spymaster Jacob Tausk - all Jews, and all suffering from the anti-Semitism that is a part of their lives. It's about political and religious conspiracies, it's about a father's love for his son and his desire to keep him out of trouble, it's about fighting terror and the onset of a world war.

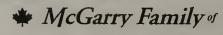
Bernstein is a professor of English and Comparative Literature at California's Berkeley, and his book has been called "rambling" and "weighty," but also "beautifully written" with "sharp, psychological insight and wicked humour."

> Tattoa for a Slave By Hortense Calisher Harcourt, Inc./Raincoast Books Softcover, 2004 (ISBN 0-15-603203-1)

The ingredients for this memoir written by 94-year-old Hortense Calisher are a southern Jewish American-born (Virginia) father who moves to New York City to become a perfume manufacturer; a German émigré mother, 22 years his junior; and a grandfather's receipt for two "servants" (or were they slaves?). Its opening line: "Your grandmother never kept slaves,' my father says to me suddenly, staring straight ahead

This is not your run-of-the-mill family history. Calisher tells her family tale of being Jewish slave-owners who become entrepreneurial northerners, never completely released from their southern traditions. She peeps into her own life as a welfare department employee, homemaker and writer.

Calisher is an accomplished writer, having penned 20 books. She is the past-president of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and of PEN, has been a National Book Award finalist three times, and has won an O. Henry Award, as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship.





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Sandy Rosenhek on the birth of her grandson Asher Oavid

Lillian Kimmel by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

ISSIE AND MINNIE SANDLER MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday wishes to: Minnie Greenberg by Joy Bodnoff,

HARRY AND FRANCES SAXE MEMORIAL FUND

Carole Zagerman by Al and Shirley Cohen.

HERMINA SCHACHNOW MEMORIAL FUND

in memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Cindy and Charles Schachnow and family. Sylvia Saslove by Cindy and Charles Schachnow and lamily

SYLVIA AND HARRY SHERMAN MEMORIAL FUND

n memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Jack and Julie Sherman.

SHMELZER-HOROVITCH ENDOWMENT FUNO

by Sol and Anne Shmelzer, David, Jane and Roberta.

FAY AND JOSEPH SHULMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Anniversary wishes to: Lynne and Barry Shulman on their 35th wedding anniversary by Charles and Marcia Rak

LORNE AND LAURIE SHUSTERMAN FAMILY FUND

In memory of: Boris Brodsky by Lome and Laune Shusterman. Lillian Kimmel by Laurie, Lome, Zak and Ben Shusterman,

JACK AND SARAH SILVERSTEIN FAMILY Mazal Toy Io:

seph and Devora Caytak on Sara's engagement by

David, Sarah and Jack Silverstein LOUIS AND STELLA SLACK MEMORIAL FUNO

Anniversary wishes to: Myra and Lester Aronson by Barbara, Lenny, Steven and

LAURA AND GDRDON SPERGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Krieger on the birth of their first grandchild Cobe Benjamin by Laura and Gordon Spergel.

In memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Laura and Gordon Spergel.

DORIS AND RICHARD STERN FAMILY FUND

Birthday wishes to: Bernie Shinder on his 70th birthday by Don's and Richard

WILLIAM "BILL" STERNBERG MEMORIAL FUND

In appreciation to:

Mark and Nina Oover by Ted and Laya Jacobsen. R'tuah Sh'iemah to:

Herman Halpern by Ted and Laya Jacobsen!
Hal Bumham by Ted and Laya Jacobsen.
In observance of the Yahrzeit ol:

Ralph Stemberg, a beloved grandfather by Stephanie

RUTH TALLER MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of: Ullian Kimmel by Ethel Kerzner.

IRVING AND ETHEL TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

Roz and Arnie Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughler Ashley Sarah by Ethel and Irving Taylor

JEFFREY TAYLOR AND SUSIE WEISMAN ENCOWMENT FUNO

in memory of: Kimmel by Susie Weisman and Jeff Taylor Leslie Blumenthal by Susie Weisman and Jeff Taylor

RUTH AND JOSEPH VINER ENDOWMENT FUND in memory of:

Lillian Kimmel by Ruth and Joe Vine Samuel Schaenfield by Ruth and Joe Viner. Nathan Waserman by Ruth and Joe Viner Sylvia Saslove by Ruth and Joe Viner

SONIA AND ARTHUR VINER MEMORIAL FUND

Birthdey wishes to: John Greenberg by Gladys Greenberg. Ian Zunder by John and Gladys Greenberg.

A Birthday Gift that Lasts!

Josée Posen's idea of a birthday present for her husband may not be everyone's idea for a birthday gift. But there is no denying that this particular gift will have lasting meaning, not only to him, but to the Ottawa Jewish community.

In honour of her husband Jerry's 70th birthday, Josée opened the Posen Family Fund and chose to designate the interest from this fund to Agudath Israel Congregation.

"In a community where there are so many worthy Jewish causes, it is too easy to overlook the synagogues, and yet they are very important in building community,"

"Agudath Israel, where we are members, has wonderful, young and energetic clergy and is reaching out to younger families. We think this is essential to maintaining a vibrant Jewish community

and have chosen to support it." If you are interested in giving



Jerry and Josée Posen

someone a gift with meaning, consider calling the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation to set up a fund for someone special. Contact us today at 798-4696, ext. 252.

If you wish to make a donation to the Posen Family Endowment Fund, you may call 798-4696, ext. 274 or visit us online at www. jewishottawa.com/ojcf.

FOUNDATION DONATIONS



Jordan Zunder by John and Gladys Greenberg Adam Zunder by John and Gladys Greenberg. Pam Ravek by John and Gladys Greenberg.

RICHARD AND RHONDA WASERMAN FAMILY FUND

In memory of:

Nathan Waseman by Joany and Andy Katz and family; by
Audrey and Inwit Kreisman and family; by Cathy Maron and
George Gaty; by Dorothy Nadolny; and by Laurie Nadolny and
Bill Green.

Lillian Kimmel by Richard, Rhonda, Zev and Eve

MIRIAM AND LOUIS WEINER ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of: Mona Kushner by Miriam and Louis Weiner.

ERICA WEINSTEIN MITZVAH FUND

Birthday wishes to: Sharon Weinstein on her special birthday by Laurie Nadofny and Bill Green and toule la gang.

MILDRED AND PERCY WEINSTEIN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Millie Weinstein.

Sylvia Saslove by Millie Weinstein. Birthday wishes to:

Sharon Weinstein on her special birthday by Millie Weinstein.

Dora Morrow by Millie Weinstein.

CLAIRE-JEHANNE AND ERIC WILNER FAMILY FUND

Rabbi Yonah and Chaya Burr on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Yaakov by Eric and Claire Wilner

IRVING AND DIANE WEXLER FAMILY FUND

Speedy recovery to: Marica Seuss by Diane Wexler.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:
Lillian Kimmel by Debi, Neil, Josh and Adam Zaret.
Nathan Waserman by Debi, Neil, Josh and Adam Zaret.

ZIPES KARANDFSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of: Mollie Linds by Helen and Rick Zipes Lillian Kimmel by Helen and Rick Zipes. Nathan Waserman by Helen and Rick Zipes.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB **B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM**

DAVINA ANNIE FINN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

in memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Sharon and Paul Finn and family. Continued good health to: Carey Polowin by Sharon and Paul Finn and family.

STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Birthday wishes to: Mirtnie Greenberg on her 75th birthday by Joany and Andy

Cathy and George Gaty on David's Bar Mitzvah by Joany and Andy Katz and family.

SAMUEL JOSEPH LESH B'NAI MITZVAH FUND In memory of: Nathan Waserman by Liz Lesh and family.

SARAH ESTHER LESH B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

In memory of: Lillian Kimmel by Liz Lesh and family

David Gaty's Bar Mitzvah by Liz, Sarah and Sammy Lesh.

Yitzy Hayes on his Bar Mitzvah by the Sigler family

Contributions may be made online all www.jewishottawa.com/ojcf or by phoning Bev Glube at 798-4696 ext. 274, Monday to Finday Dur e-mail address is bglube@jewishottawa.com. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with an official receipt for income tax purposes. We accept Visa

New!

A complete listing of the endowment funds established with the OJCF can be viewed online! Plus, a link has been added to the online donation form which allows you to search through our endowment listing and return back to the donation form to complete vour transaction.

Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

ORGANIZATION

2005 Dollars

Ottawa Jewish Community Agencies		Emunah Women of Canada	695	Black Canadian Scholarship Fund	375
Agudath Israel Synagogue	370	Imre Noam Congregation	745	Canadian Cancer Society	855
AJA 50+	2.048	Kollel Avreichim of Toronto	100	Canadian Diabetes Association	160
Akiva High School	793	London Community Hebrew Day School		Canadian Liver Foundation	35
Beth Shalom Congregation	7,795	Machon Tzvi Hersh		Canadian National Institute for the Blind	485
Beth Shalom Congregation-Sisterhood	120	Mazon Canada		Canadian Red Cross Society - Ottawa-Carleton Bran-	ch 310
Beth Shalom West Congregation	180	Mazon Canada MIT Boston Hillel on Campus		Canadian Tribute to Human Rights	95
Camp B'nai Brith	5,303	Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation - Montreal		Cancer Research Society	130
	370	Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation of Toronto		Carleton University	5,295
Camp Gesher	395	Mount Sinai Hospital Foundation of Toronto 24 Na'Amat Ottawa 39		Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario	2,560
Canada -Israel Cultural Foundation		Oir Hachaim D'Tash Bois Briand 480		Children's Wish Foundation	215
Canadian Friends of Torah Academy	3,940	ORT Canada 695		Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada	480
Cheder Rambam School	8,643	Ottawa Hadassah-Wizo 1,890		Foundation for Fighting Blindness	375
Gilhert Greenberg Education Fund	142,540			Girls & Boys Club of Ottawa-Carleton	195
Hillel Academy	66,262				340
Hillel Lodge	77,249	She'arim Hebrew Day School 36		Heart and Stroke Foundation	205
Hille! Lodge Ladies Auxiliary	220	Society for the Education of Russian Jews – SERJ	230	Hiflerest High School	
Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc.	4,376	Yeshivat Or Chaim	455	Hip Hip Herray	485
Jewish Community Cemetery-Holocaust Memorial	330	Zareinu -	170	Kemptville District Hospital	485
Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vand Ha'lr	3,780	Total	7,695	Kiwanis Club of Ottawa Medical Foundation	160
Jewish Community of Ottawa Development Foundation	123,175			Lisgar Alumni Association	480
Jewish Education through Torah	596	Jewish Agencies in Israel, Ottawa and North		MIT Boston Alumm	115
Jewish Family Services	24,538	Gevurah Fund - Grants and Allocations (anonymous)	97,519	Multiple Sclerosis Society	55
Jewish Students Association	1,596	Hod Fund - Grants and Allocations (anonymous)	1,202,960	Nepean High School	60
Jewish Youth Library	1,353	Tzedek Fund - Grants and Allocations (anonymous)	10,000	North York General Hospital-	
Kollel of Ottawa	500	Total	1,310,479	Sheila Cohen Fund for Women's Health	445
Kosher Food Bank c/o Agudath Israel Synugogue	8,156	•••••		Ottawa Deaf Centre	260
Machon Sarah High School	2,389	Israeli Institutions		Ottawa Heart Institute Foundation	1,480
	2,990		500	Ottawa Hospital Foundation	3,375
Machzikei Hadas Congregation Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation	2,270	Beit Halochem Canada/Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel	75	Ottawa Kidney Foundation	50
	625	Canadian Friends of Alyn		Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre Foundation	170
Ottawa Chevra Kadisha	95	Canadian Friends of Bar Han University	2,870	Ottawa Rotary Home Foundation	555
Onawa Hebrew Free Loan		Canadian Friends of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev	675	Parkway House	415
Ottawa Jewish Archives	2,913	Canadian Friends of Ezrat Nashim Herzog Hospital	185	Pinchas Zukerman Music Education Fund	5,480
Ottawa Jewish Cemeteries	10,258	Canadian Friends of Ghetto Fighters	4,005	Oucen's University	480
Ottawa Jewish Historical Society	8,105	Canadian Friends of Haifa University	500	Queensway- Carleton Hospital Foundation	2,120
Ottawa Modern Jewish School	1,468	Canadian Friends of Hebrew University	4,140	RFACH	100
Ottawa Post Jewish War Veterans of Canada Fund	1,485	Canadian Friends of Jerusalem Blind Institute	430	Reens Foundation	55
Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad	1,106	Canadian Friends of Laniado Hospital	875	Royal Ottawa Hospital Foundation	250
Ottawa Torah Institute	2,215	Canadian Friends of Ramai Shapira Israel	375	SCO Health Services	605
Ottawa Vaad Hakashrut	315	Canadian Friends of Shaare Tzedek Hospital Foundation	600	The Salvation Army	480
Soloway Jewish Community Centre	75,263	Canadian Friends of Simon Weisenthal Foundation	130		480
Star of David Hebrew School	813	Canadian Friends of Technion University	2,505	United Way of Ottawa-Carleton	980
Talmud Torah Afternoon School	9,93g	Canadian Friends of Weizmann Institute of Science	3,185	University of Ottawa	
Tanur Foundation	50,335	Canadian Magen David Adom in Israel	1,900	University of Ottawa Heart Institute	500
Temple Israel Congregation	2,450	Israel Cancer Research Fund	825	Water-Can	115
Temple Israel Religious School	1,081	Jewish National Fund	980	Total	32,905
Torah Academy of Ottawa	5,443	Mizrachi Organization of Canada for Yeshiva Haye Olam	540		
United Jewish Appeal	191,020	United Israel Appeal Federations Canada	11,440	Allocated but not distributed	5,257
Yitzhak Rabin High School	9,080		36,735		-,
Total	866,285	Total	30,733		
LOTA	000,200	Committee Control Committee		Total to Jewish Causes	2,221,194
Y. John American Month America		General Non-Sectarion Organizations	100	To Non-Sectarian Organizations	32,905
Jewish Agencies North America		Alzheimer Society Ottawa-Carleton	150	to non-occurian organizations	32,503
Bayerest Centre Foundation Campaign for Care	370	Andrew Fleck Integration Service	20.5	T. 1 C	2 250 257
Emunah Women of Canada - (Hamilton)	70	Arthritis Society	205	Total Grants to Organizations	2,259,356



Vegetable Stir-fry

Serves 4

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 large onion, sliced into circles
- I jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely diced
- 2 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 1 sweet red pepper, cut into strips
- 1/2 small cauliflower, cut into florets
- 2 cups sugar snap peas, trimmed
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 6 large basil leaves, thinly sliced
- 1/3 cup roasted cashews, coarsely chopped

Heat oil in a large frying pan over medium high heat. Add onion, jalapeno, garlic and red pepper and cook for about 2 minutes, stirring often. Add cauliflower and sugar snap peas and continue cooking for an additional 4-5 minutes, until tender. If pan becomes too dry and vegetables begin to burn, add about 1/4 cup water to pan.

Toss vegetables with sugar and soy sauce. Sprinkle with basil and chopped cashews. Serve.



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Lost in the translation

Over the winter break, we took a family holiday to Costa Rica. It is an amazing country featuring mountains, rain forests and beaches fronting both the Caribbean and the Pacific. We stayed in Guanacaste, in the northwest, the driest of the country's seven provinces.

Although the weather and the sights were wonderful, I think what I loved most about Costa Rica were the people.

Costa Rica has no military arm. Many years ago, the government decided to pour the majority of its resources into education. As a result, Costa Rica has the highest literacy rate in Central America and education is highly

As a Jewish mother, who also values education, I could relate! The people are warm and friendly and genuinely happy and proud to share their knowledge of the country with tourists.

We had an action-packed trip including horseback riding, white water rafting, zipping across a forest high above the trees attached to a cable and driving over rough, wet and muddy terrain on ATVs. Our group numbered 23, ranging in age from five to 50. I have to say that aside from a few injuries (saddlesores and an encounter with a barbed wire fence), we came home in pretty good shape.

There were many funny moments on the trip. The highlight would have to be watching my brother-in-law stay on a horse for three hours. A confidentiality agreement prevents me from revealing which brother-in-law I am

One of our favourite times of the day was going into the buffet for dinner each evening. The food was delicious, but what we loved even more was finding the translation errors on the various buffet tables. We made a game of it each evening, seeing who could spot the most mistakes.

Some of the funniest were, "Glassed Carrots and Sweet Potatoes" (snould have read "Giazed"), "Chip Pea Salad" (should have read "Chick Pea"), and "Doiphin Potatoes" (should have read "Potatoes Dauphin," a classic French way of preparing potatoes).

However, the award went to "Chicken Tights." We could not imagine what lay beneath this covered dish. Upon lifting the lid, we discovered chicken thighs in a coconutpeanut sauce. Below, you will find my rendition of Costa Rican "chicken tights." They are wonderful with Jasmine rice and a simple vegetable stir-fry.

Thai Chicken "Tights"

I was unable to secure the original recipe from the chef in Costa Rica, but this recipe comes close. It is adapted from a similar recipe in the September 2005 issue of Homemakers magazine.

- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 4 cloves garlic, finely minced
- 1/2 cup finely chopped shallots (about 3 large shallots)
- 2 teaspoons ground coriander
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon turmeric
- 1/2 teaspoon sweet paprika 1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper (or more if you like it hot)
- I cup canned coconut milk
- 2 teaspoons brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon grated lime zest
- 3 tablespoons crunchy peanut butter
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 1 1/2 pounds beneless skinless chicken thighs

For garnish

1/4 cup shredded toasted coconut lime wedges

In a small saucepan, heat oil over medium heat. Sauté garlic and shallots for about 2 minutes. Add ceriander, cumin, salt, ginger, turmeric, paprika and cayenne and cook, stirring, for about another 2 minutes, until the mixture is fragrant. Stir in coconut milk, sugar and lime zest and continue cooking, stirring, just until boiling. Reduce heat and simmer for 2 minutes. Add peanut butter and lime juice; let cool. This sauce can be made up to 3 days ahead and refrigerated.

Place chicken thighs in a zip-loc plastic bag. Add 1/2 cup of peanut sauce and massage outside the bag to ensure that all chicken pieces are coated. The chicken can be cooked right away or can be refrigerated for up to 24

Lightly brush a ridged grill pan with vegetable oil and heat over moderately high heat until just beginning to smoke. Remove chicken from plastic bag and grill about 4 minutes per side, until well browned. Turn heat down to low and continue cooking for about another 8 minutes until chicken is thoroughly cooked and no longer pink inside. Alternatively, chicken can be cooked under the broiler (about 8 minutes per side).

Brush chicken with some of the remaining sauce. Sprinkle with toasted coconut and serve with lime wedges and additional sauce on the side.



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KITCHENS

Picture books extend their range

Within recent years, publishers of Jewish content picture books have extended their range of offerings well beyond the old staple of holidays and Holocaust stories, bible retellings and folkloric wisdom tales. They are now also producing picture book biographies, histories, etc.

That expansion has the potential to have an impact on children in at least two ways. First, it provides role models for younger children and further opens the world to them. Second, depending on interests, picture books can appeal to a broader age range.

The Travels of Benjamin of Tudela Through Three Continents In The Twelfth Century By Uri Shulevitz Farrar Straus Giroux 2005 Unpaged, Ages 5 and up

More than 100 years before Marco Polo's well-chronicled travels, a Jew, about whom little else is known, literally risked life and limb to travel from his home in Tudela in northern Spain through most of the then-known-world. He left Tudela in 1159 and returned 14 years later, in 1173.

Benjamin of Tudela used every means of travel available in medieval times: he walked, rode in wagons and carts, sailed in barges and tall ships, rode camels, etc. For safety, he tried to be inconspicuous both as a Jew and as a lone traveller, often joining groups for especially dangerous legs of his journey. And he always spent time in the Jewish quarter of every city he visited.

By the time Benjamin returned home, he had seen the major cities of his age: Rome, Constantinople, Jerusalem, Baghdad, Susa, Cairo, as well as Mount Sinai. He had survived storms at sea, brigands, pirates, assassins, sand storms, desert heat and shipwreck.

We know about Benjamin of Tudela because he kept a detailed diary of his journey and the wondrous stories he heard along the way. His Sefer ha-Massa of (Book of Travels) is a primary reference for medieval historians and has been translated into almost every European language.

Renowned children's author and illustrator Uri Shulevitz based his fictionalized book, *The Travels of Benjamīn of Tudela*, primarily on the original Hebrew text. Shulevitz's work is fiction because he uses the first person narrative style. This helps readers identify with Benjamin and gain a sense of what living and travelling in medieval times was like.

Shulevitz's exquisite illustrations further draw readers into Benjamin's adventure, as does a map showing his route and factual sidebars that appear on some of the pages.

The Travels of Benjamin of Tudela: Through Three Continents in the Twelfth Century will excite budding historians as well as kids interested in the imaginative world of Tolkein-like middle kingdom adventures.

> Dreamer From The Village The Story of Marc Chagall By Michelle Market Illustrated by Emily Lisker Henry Holt and Company 2005 Unpaged Ages 4 - 8

Like the life stories of Yiddish writer, Sholom Aleichem, and Nobel prize winning physicist, Albert Einstein, the story of Marc Chagall (1887-1985) is yet another example of an exceptional child who followed his unique talent, despite all odds. For all three, the key to their greatness was imagination. "What if?" each asked. Their answers revealed original ways of looking at the world.

Based, in part, on childhood incidents described in My Life, Chagall's autobiography, Dreamer From The Village portrays his unusual perspective in both its well-paced, broad-brush, vivid prose and in its fanciful illustrations.

The young Moshe (later Marc) Chagall is described as a passionate observer, who loved everything about his small Russian village and his family's traditions. Whether walking



Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

in the streets, looking out an attic window or sitting on the roof like his grandpa used to do, Chagall saw everything with a luminosity and expressiveness that made him different.

As author Michelle Markel tells it, Chagall added an inner world of dreams and emotions to reality. Thus the exuberance of his colours and the seemingly contradictory ephemeral-yetrooted quality of so much of his mature art. In effect, Chagall never outgrew his childhood way of looking at the world.

The teenage Chagall, however, worried his parents. He failed every high school subject except drawing and geometry. Worse yet, his family didn't even like his art. What would become of this boy? Readers will soon find out.

Along the way, they will be captivated by Emily Lisker's



From The Travels of Benjamin of Tudela

glorious illustrations. Imitating Chagall's colours, shapes and styles, Lisker's paintings almost overwhelm the pages as they replicate the brilliance and passion that was Chagall's world. A wonderful partnership of author and illustrator and a truly beautiful picture book!

Jewish RSS page saves a lot of browsing

For the last few months, I've used RSS feeds to help me keep up with areas of special interest on the Web.

RSS (really simple syndication) regularly sends material directly to a reader from various web pages and blogs. It's convenient and fast, and saves a lot of browsing.

After trying out various RSS readers, I now use Yahoo's system for customizing pages. I've set up about balf a dozen topic pages, including two for my Global Shtetl writing. In this column, I'll review my Jewish page; next time, I'll discuss RSS on Israel and the Middle East.

Yahoo has a page that describes RSS and shows you how to set it up.

If you don't use Yahoo, there are all kinds of free RSS readers available. Check by googling "RSS readers." One is produced by an Ottawa company - Rocket Reader.

My news sources

The first group of RSS feeds provides me with current Jewish-content news. I use four feeds for this purpose.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency wire keeps me up to the minute on Jewish stories. I particularly like the feed because of its feature stories and interesting backgrounders on things I otherwise might have missed. Such as a piece on the reaction of ex-Mossad agents to Spielberg's Munich movie, or an interesting story on enrichment school programs for underprivileged children in Israel.

The three news aggregators bring me current stories gathered by Google (search term "lewish"), Yahoo ("Jews") and Tonx ("Judaism"). All told, there were about 40 stories showing on the news section of my page from about 25 sources, ranging from Ha'arets and Chabad publications to various U.S. newspapers, a Korean newspaper and a Turkish news service.

Interpreting Jewish life

Other RSS feeds interpret issues and concerns of contemporary Jewish life.

One such feed, taken from the Judaism website, is the well-known About.com series of web pages. Based on About.Judaism's website, this feed provides various articles that change according to the issues and progressions of the Jewish year. (When I started writing, it focused on celebrating Chanukah; when I looked again, it dealt with Israeli concerns related to Ariel Sharon's stroke.)

Cross-Currents is a feed for a general interest blog dealing with American and Jewish social and intellectual issues, written from a conservative intellectual perspective. It is sharp



Global Shtetl The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

and, because I often find myself in opposition to its conclusions, it gives me a good run for my money and forces me to think of perspectives that I might otherwise avoid considering.

Two other feeds are also challenging, but have more specific emphasis. Nexthook is a collection of links of essays and extracts from forthcoming books on a variety of Jewish interests. Lamed is an Israeli-American feed for Jewish educators. (Recently they dealt with a multi-source discussion of the intelligent design controversy and with child pornography as a social issue.)

Another general site is pure enjoyment, the RSS version of an old favourite, *Klezmer Shack*, including access to music clips and podcasts.

Judaism

My RSS page is a good place to set up some Torah study feeds. Chabad, which has always taken a lead in using technology to promote Judaism, is my major source. I am still tweaking my page, and when other organizations, such as Orthodox Union and the Jewish Theological Seminary, develop their own RSS links, I will rehalance the contents.

I use two main sets of feeds from Chabad. One is Chabad's weekly magazine. The other is a series of short daily study feeds, offering a chance to learn a little Chumash or Psalms daily, or to go further in Chabad writings, Talmud, or Rambam.

I also get a set of RSS feeds called Walk Through the Parsha by Rabbi David Walk. I get more material than I read. But getting these feeds in such a convenient way leaves me no excuse for neglecting study and makes it more likely I will do some most days.

Websites

Yahoo explains RSS: http://my.yahoo.com/s/ahout/rss/ index.html:_ylt=AicGp.X090VIECqTacNLBSNFIPAI?.src=m y&_page=p4&.done=http%3A%2F%2Fmy.yahoo.com%2Fp %2F4.html&.enc=UTF-8 (hyphens intended)

Rocket Reader: http://reader.rocketinfo.com/desktop/

WHAT'S GOING ON February 6 to February 19, 2006

For a detailed listing visit www.jewishottawa.org





On Sunday, February 19 at 2 pm, The Ottawa Jewish Film Socially will be than "" at "" and gard Seeding" about a left who ventures to Poland with his two Torah-observant sons in an attempt to expand their world view. The visit, in which his sons meet the family that hid their grandfather 60 years earlier, explores the many facets of prejudice, tolerance and redemption. Open to all SJCC and Library members with presentation of a card. For information call the Library, 798-9818, ext. 245.

WEDNESDAY

Mother and Daughter Israeli Dancing (Women Only), Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:00 pm.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10

SJCC, Hillel Academy & Carleton School Board PD Day, 8:30 am.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15

Mother and Daughter Israeil Dancing (Women Only), Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Drive, 7:00 pm.

Chabad of Centrepointe, "Kabbalah and the Female's Role in Judaism," with Rabbi Mendel Kaplan, 7:30 pm.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16

SJCC, Annual General Meeting, 7:00 pm.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19 Ottawa Jewish Film Society, "Hiding and Seeking," 2:00 pm.



CANDLELIGHTING

Feb 10	*	5:05 pm
Feb 17	*	5:15 pm
Erb 24	14	5:25 pm

COMING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 Caring for the elderly lecture series, Beth Shalom West, 15 Chartwell Avenue, 7:30 pm.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
Adina Ben-Porat Memorial Lecture,
"Who is in charge of my body?" A medical and Jewish ethical
perspective on experimental therapies
with Dr. Raphael Saginur and Rabbi Eliezer Ben-Porat.
Ticket Info: 244-3939.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24 Elat Chayim Shabbat weekend with Rabbi David Ingber,

Temple teraci. Info: www.templeisraelottawa.ca

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 SJCC and Torah Academy of Ottawa 7th Annual Chinese Auction. Info: 274-0110

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schafer, celndar coordinator of 789-9818 ext. 255. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all evants must be open to the Jewish public. You may fax to 799-9839 or email to bachaler@jccotlawa.com.

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Condolences are extended to the families of:

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Sally Borenstein

Irving Feldman

Dora Ilivitsky

Bessie Kisilevsky, Montreal (mother of

Laurie Kisilevsky Bultz) Frieda Lauterman

Avraham Mordok (brother of Miriam Arnon)

Sylvia Saslove

May their memory be a blessing always. The

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2006

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APRIL 5 FOR APRIL 24

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May 3 For May 22.

MAY 31 FOR JUNE 19

July 5 for July 24